

E

178

.3

.S95







Deposited Feb'y
7. 1855 at the
Clerks Office
of Court Dist
of New York

228

Deposited
7. 1800
John O'Brien
of New York

252

7. 1875. 25th
John C. Brown
of Littleton
of New York

to 22nd







Temple of Truth.

PUBLISHED FOR THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

REPORT
State Library 13.183
OF THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

FROM THE

DISCOVERY OF THE CONTINENT IN 1492,

TO THE

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR INDEPENDENCE.

—
✓
BY REV. LA ROY SUNDERLAND.
—

Written for the S. S. Union of the Methodist E. Church.



NEW-YORK,

PUBLISHED BY B. WAUGH AND T. MASON,

For the Sunday School Union of the Methodist Episcopal Church,
at the Conference Office, 200 Mulberry-street.

—
J. Collord, Printer.

1834.

E 178
S 95

"Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1834,
by B. Waugh and T. Mason, in the Clerk's Office of the Dis-
trict Court of the Southern District of New-York."

2118

DEDICATION.

*To the Youth connected with the Sunday School
Union of the Methodist Episcopal Church.*

DEAR YOUTH :—I have written the following pages expressly for you. There are a great many reasons why you should become acquainted with the history of the country where you were born, and the particulars by which that country is distinguished from other portions of the world.

Among other things you have probably been taught, and certainly you should never forget, that your highest interests, and your greatest felicity, depend on your being *good*; and it is a truth of equal importance, that the second object of your existence is, that you may *do good*.

To secure both of these objects, therefore, your Creator has put within your power the means of becoming *intelligent* and *wise*, of improving your minds with knowledge, by which you may be qualified, in some sense, to be useful as long as you live.

What an unhappy thing, then, must it be for any one to grow up in *ignorance*, especially

when the means of instruction are every where multiplied in such abundance. Let me hope, therefore, that you will feel it a pleasure to seek instruction by reading and studying the history of the country in which you live. Study to be good and to do good ; so when you are advanced in life, you will not find yourself unfit for the society with which you may be surrounded, nor be constrained to say, "How have I despised instruction, and my soul has hated reproof!"

LA ROY SUNDERLAND

PREFACE.

The following history was undertaken at the request of the editors of the Sabbath School and Youth's Library of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

It embraces an account of the discovery of the American continent, and the various settlements made by different nations, within the present limits of the United States; together with notices of the population, government, religion, arts, and employments of its original inhabitants. It also describes the growth of the colonies, the many distressing wars and calamities in which they were involved, and a particular detail of the circumstances which finally separated them from the government of England, and established their national independence. It is interspersed with narrations of many interesting incidents and remarkable facts; and the whole is accompanied with observations and reflections designed to illustrate and set forth the most prominent features in the manners, customs, and government of the people of this country.

It has not been the author's aim to adapt his language to the nursery in the composition of

the following pages, because the book may possibly be read by young people. He has endeavoured to avoid the too frequent dryness of mere annals on the one hand, and the tiresome diffuseness of laboured description on the other, and to render this book such a one as may not be read without some pleasure and profit, both by the young and the old.

No history in the world presents so many interesting combinations of piety, wisdom, patriotism, and daring enterprise, as that of these United States, and none exhibits more striking instances of a Divine Providence in the government and direction of the affairs of men. For this reason its study should be one of the first things to interest the attention of our youth, while its pages may assist the pleasing reminiscences of riper years.

The want of time prevents that revision and polish which this work ought to receive before it goes to the press; but this is impossible, as every page of it has been written in the course of a few weeks, while the author has been under the hands of a physician, and upon a journey for the benefit of his health.

New-York, Sept. 8, 1834.

INTRODUCTION.

History—Its object—Advantages to be derived from its study.

1. HISTORY, in general, is a narrative, or description, of past or present events. It calls up and sets before the mind of the reader the causes which have contributed to the formation of the characters of eminent men, as well as those which have aided more or less in the rise and fall of empires. It sets before us instances of virtue and patriotism, which are worthy of our imitation, while at the same time it warns us against the repetition of those vices, which have always been followed with misery and the curse of God.

2. The dealings of God with his intelligent creatures, his disposition toward them, and his general government over the world, may be traced on the pages of the faithful historian. Here we learn that there can be no real prosperity without his blessing ;—that he holds the sceptre of universal dominion, and dispenses his blessings upon nations and individuals, that he may secure their faithfulness in the discharge of the various duties which they respectively owe to him.

3. The people of these United States enjoy many blessings, with which no other nation

since the beginning of the world was ever favoured. Hence it becomes exceedingly important for all to acquaint themselves with the means which have made this nation what it is ;— that we may acknowledge our gratitude to the great Disposer of all events, and learn not to forfeit, by our vices and infidelity, the manifold mercies by which we have been distinguished.

HISTORY

OF THE

UNITED STATES.

CHAPTER I.

Discovery of America by Cabot and Columbus.

1. THAT portion of the world generally denominated AMERICA, was accidentally discovered in the attempts which were made in A. D. 1492, to reach the East Indies from the ports of Europe. There is no evidence that this continent was ever known to any of the ancient Europeans previous to this time. The Portuguese, some years before, had attempted to find a passage to the East Indies, by sailing round the southern extremity of Africa, but without success.

2. It is supposed that these efforts of the Portuguese, together with the circumstance of pieces of carved wood, a canoe, and two human bodies, of a different complexion from any known to Europeans, having been driven, by westerly winds, upon the shores of some islands which lay near to Europe, induced Christopher Columbus to engage in the enterprise of seeking a passage to the East Indies, by sailing directly west.

3. Columbus himself, however, was not able to meet the expenses of such an expedition;

but unwilling to abandon it on this account, he applied for assistance from his native city, Genoa. The appeal was ineffectual. His countrymen saw no cause for advancing funds to aid in an undertaking which appeared to them so perfectly futile and visionary.

4. This enterprising navigator made a number of unsuccessful efforts to obtain assistance, and it was not till he had spent a number of years in fruitless begging, that he finally succeeded in obtaining the help which he so much desired. This was granted by Ferdinand and Isabella, who were then on the united thrones of Castile and Aragon.

Columbus set sail from Palos, in Spain, on the 3d of August, 1492. His fleet consisted of three vessels, the *Santa Maria*, *Pinta*, and *Nina*, which were manned with ninety men.

5. In nine days after his departure he touched at the Canary Islands; and after having taken in some provisions for the voyage, he began again to trace his way upon the trackless ocean. They had proceeded about six hundred miles from the most westerly of the Canaries, when an event occurred which exceedingly alarmed the pilots and mariners. It was observed that the magnetic needle did not point, as usual, directly to the north star. Columbus, however, contrived some method which seems to have quieted their fears for awhile; but this quiet did not last long. The crew now became generally discontented, and some of them insisted, peremptorily, on his immediate return to Spain; others pro-

posed to cast him into the sea, and return without him; and they were pacified only by his promising to return, if land should not be discovered within the space of three days.

6. Happily, at ten o'clock in the evening of October 11, a light was discovered by Columbus, which was hailed with loud acclamations of joy, as the sign of their immediate approach to land. The whole crew kept watch that night in sleepless anxiety. Early the next morning the boats were manned and armed, and they put for the shore. In the meantime, the sight of their ships, and their music, had drawn multitudes of the natives to the surrounding shore, who were seen gazing upon this strange scene with mingled emotions of astonishment and surprise.

7. Columbus, with his drawn sword, and richly ornamented with his finest dress, stepped first upon the land; the crew followed, when they all fell upon their knees, and kissed the ground with tears of gratitude and joy. Columbus took possession of the island in the name of his king and queen, by erecting the flag of his country, and calling it *San Salvador*; but the natives called it *Guanahani*.

8. Columbus tarried at this island but a few days, and then proceeded to make farther discoveries. October 27, he discovered the island of Cuba, which he called Juanna. He sailed from Cuba on the 5th of December, and on the following day discovered Hayti, which he called Hispaniola, in honour of his own country. While here, he unfortunately lost one of his

ships. By this misfortune the sympathy of the natives was exceedingly excited. They brought their canoes to save what they could from the wreck. The Indian cazique, or chief, prepared a house for the accommodation of the Spaniards, appointed his men to guard their property, and did all in his power to promote their comfort.

9. On January 16, 1493, Columbus set sail for Spain. They were overtaken by a most violent storm, February 14, and threatened with immediate destruction. In this extremity the admiral and the whole crew united in commending themselves to the care and protection of almighty God. To prevent the total loss of his discoveries, he wrote an account of them, folded the manuscript in a piece of oiled cloth, and sealed this up in wax ; and putting it into a light cask, he threw it into the sea, in hopes that if himself and crew were all lost, this writing might float to some distant shore, and make known the success of his adventures.

10. But Columbus and his companions were providentially preserved. On the 15th of March he arrived at Palos, where he was received with joy, and distinguished with special marks of honour by the king and queen, under whose patronage he had sailed.

The fame of this voyage led the way for the discovery of *America*. This honour, however, was reserved for two Venetians, John Cabot, and his son Sabastian. The father, under a commission from Henry VII., king of England, commenced the voyage which resulted in this

important event, in May, 1497. This voyage was undertaken with the hope of finding a north-west passage to India. On June 24th they discovered Newfoundland, and a few days after St. John's; an island which they so named, from the circumstance of its having been first seen on the day of John the Baptist, which is a feast day among the Roman Catholics. They then stretched along the coast of this new world, till they had proceeded as far south as Florida. The want of provisions, and difficulty among the sailors, now induced them to return to England. It was upon the discoveries made in this voyage, that the English founded their claim to the eastern portion of North America.

11. The spirit of discovery now began to spread itself extensively throughout Europe. In 1499 a voyage to the new world was undertaken by Alonso de Ojeda, who had formerly been an officer under Columbus in his first voyage. Ojeda was accompanied by a Florentine gentleman of more than ordinary accomplishments, by the name of Amerigo Vespucci. It was the interesting account which he gave of the new continent, which led to its being called *America*, after his name.

12. No attempt was made to settle a colony in any part of America, which is now included within the bounds of the United States, till the year 1502. And this first attempt appears to have been started by *religious persecution*. It was planned by a company of French Protestants. They are supposed to have landed some-

where within the present limits of South Carolina, where a fort was built. The effort, however, was unsuccessful.

13. In 1584 two ships were sent to America by Sir Walter Raleigh. They arrived on the coast of North America, July 4. They first landed on the island of Wocokon, and proceeded to take formal possession of the country in the name of the then queen of England. They then went to an island called Roanoke, which lies at the mouth of Albemarle sound in North Carolina. After continuing here awhile, and trading with the natives, in September they returned to England. The description which these adventurers gave of this new country on their return, so interested Queen Elizabeth, that she determined to call it *Virginia*, in commemoration of its having been discovered during her reign, and while she was unmarried.

14. After this, a number of unsuccessful efforts were made, at different times, to effect the settlement of a permanent colony on this coast. In 1602, Bartholomew Gosnold sailed from England to the coast of North America, by a new route. Instead of taking the Canaries and West Indies in his course as others had done before him, he sailed directly west, and in a very short time he discovered land. To one place he gave the name of Cape Cod, from the circumstance of a large quantity of cod fish being found in the waters around it. He also discovered Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket, Buzzard's Bay, and one of the Elizabeth Islands.

CHAPTER II.

British Colonies—The first permanent settlement in Virginia.

1. THE first permanent settlement which was ever effected within the limits of the United States was commenced in 1607. A fleet of three ships, under the command of Christopher Newport, with about one hundred emigrants on board, sailed from England in December 1606. A storm prevented their landing at Roanoke, as they designed, and by which they were driven to the north as far as the Chesapeake Bay, into which they entered, April 26, 1607. Until the middle of the next month they were employed in searching for a suitable place for commencing a settlement. They finally landed and took possession of a place about forty miles from the mouth of the Powhatan River, but which they called James River. They immediately proceeded to fell the trees and make preparations for their intended settlement, and in honour of the king under whose patent they sailed, the place was called Jamestown.

2. The government of this colony consisted of a council of seven persons, who were appointed by the company under whose auspices they had sailed. The names of this council, together with the instructions from the king, were brought over from England with the emigrants, sealed up in a box, and were not made known to any one till after they had gained the place of their destination.

3. These adventurers had proceeded but a lit-

the way in their labours, before they were thwarted by sad calamities. Before the conclusion of this year, the store house, containing their provisions, took fire, and was entirely consumed, together with the principal part of their private goods and dwellings; and during the summer and fall more than fifty persons died from the effects of the climate.

4. In November, of this year, Captain John Smith, who was a member of the council, started with a company of fifteen men to discover the source of the Chickahominy. He was very soon after surprised by the Indians and taken prisoner. The Indians, it is probable, were provoked to this attack by Captain Smith's conduct toward them before this, as he had cheated the natives, it seems, in his attempts to obtain corn of them, and at one time he had stolen an idol from them, for the redemption of which they paid a large quantity of corn. This conduct in Captain Smith was certainly reprehensible, exceedingly so; and as the sequel proves, it like to have cost him his life.

5. He was now carried in triumph through a number of their villages, to their chief or king. After being detained six weeks, a council was called to deliberate on his fate. He was doomed to have his brains beaten out with a war club. To this end he was forcibly dragged to a couple of large stones which had been brought for this purpose, his head was placed upon them, and the weapon of death raised to complete the work of destruction. At this moment, Pocahontas, a

favourite daughter of the king, rushed to the prisoner, clasped his head in her arms, and in tears, entreated her father to spare his life. She prevailed. The war club dropped from the brawny hand of the savage, and in two days after Smith was sent back to Jamestown with twelve Indians for his guides.

6. It is not known that the natives, found in any part of this country, were ever unkind to strangers unless they were first provoked to revenge by the whites. On the contrary, they were always hospitable to such as approached them as friends, and seemed to feel peculiar delight in administering to their wants. When Captain Newport and his company first landed, after their arrival from England, large numbers of the natives came down to the shore to confer with him on the object of his coming; and when the English made signs of peace, they were received by the untutored sons of the forest with the utmost cordiality and friendship, and were offered as much land for the purpose of settlements as they desired.

7. In August, 1607, a company of emigrants to the number of one hundred sailed from Plymouth, England, and landed on a peninsula or island, at the mouth of Kennebec River. The first thing they did after reaching the shore was to hear a sermon from their minister, after which the laws were read by which they were to be governed. The ships in which they sailed returned in the following December, and forty-five persons were left in the colony. But these be-

came discouraged in the course of the next year, and were so overwhelmed with a series of misfortunes that befell them, that they all returned to the mother country, and the colony was given up.

8. The company in London, for colonizing Virginia, in 1609 obtained a new charter from the king, with greater privileges than the first. They immediately despatched nine ships, with five hundred emigrants on board, to augment the rising colony; but all of them did not arrive till some time in the fall. Circumstances now seemed to render the natives jealous of the increasing numbers of the whites. Accordingly a plan was fixed for their destruction; and but for the timely notice given by the same girl who saved the life of Captain Smith, (see 5, above,) this plot had proved fatal. She was now only about twelve years of age, and yet, at the hazard of her life, she walked to the settlement of Jamestown, in a dark and dreary night, on purpose to make the English acquainted with her father's design, which had been formed for their destruction. This attempt of the natives was provoked by an attack which a party of the whites made on some Indians at the falls of James River.

In the beginning of 1610 the colony became exceedingly disheartened and reduced by a dreadful famine. It prevailed to such an extent, that the people were induced to subsist on the skins of animals, and finally on human flesh. In the space of six months the colony was reduced from five hundred persons to sixty.

9. It was some time during the year 1612 that a Captain Argal, while on a voyage for trade to the Potomac, visited Pocahontas, who was then somewhere in the vicinity ; he prevailed on her to accompany him to his vessel. He supposed that by detaining her among the English at Jamestown, the hostile feelings of her father, who was then at war with the whites, would be subdued. Powhatan, however, refused to be brought to terms of peace in this way. Her stay at Jamestown, in the meantime, was not without its advantages to the English. The sympathy and noble interest which she had manifested for the whites, won the affections of Mr. Rolfe, a young man, who was a planter in the colony. Powhatan consented to their marriage ; and as the consequence of this union peace was restored between the contending parties. This couple afterward went over to England, where the young princess was treated with great respect and attention by the king and nobility. She died when about to return to America, universally beloved for her kindness and friendship to the white people.

10. The Dutch commenced a settlement and built a fort on Hudson's River, where Albany now stands, in 1614 ; and the next year they commenced another settlement on what was then called Manhattan, now New-York. John Smith, who has been mentioned before, (see 4, above,) having some time previously returned to England, was sent out this year with two ships to New-England, which was then known by the

name of North Virginia. After visiting this coast to some considerable extent, and trading with the natives, he returned to England. The description which he gave of that part of the country which he visited was exceedingly interesting to Prince Charles, hence he determined that it should be called *New-England*.

11. It is worthy of notice here, that efforts were made to found a college or university, within the bounds of the Virginia colony, as early as 1619; and one thousand five hundred pounds sterling were collected for this noble purpose in England. And another event occurred about this time which marked this period as one never to be forgotten. Twenty innocent and defenceless Africans were brought into James River, and offered for sale as slaves by the *Dutch*. They were purchased without any hesitancy by the colonists, and doomed to unending bondage. "This," says Hale, "was the commencement, in the English American colonies, of a traffic, abhorrent to humanity, disgraceful to civilization, and fixing the foulest blot upon the character of the age and people."

CHAPTER III.

British Colonies—Settlement of New-England.

1. It would seem that every American must feel a peculiar interest in tracing the early history of his native country. In this kind of history there is a peculiar charm, which the com-

bined excellencies of truth, and heroism, and virtue, and enterprise cannot fail to spread before the mind.

In this chapter we shall find instances of courage, and faith, and perseverance, which will be held in pleasing remembrance by the virtuous and good as long as the world shall endure.

2. The first permanent settlement which was ever effected in that part of the United States called New-England, was formed in 1620, by a sect known by the name of *Puritans*.* This name appears to have been given them in the same way that the name of "Methodist" was first given to the Messrs. Wesleys at Oxford college, in England. They were persecuted in many instances with unrelenting severity; and to avoid which, a company of them formed the design of escaping to America. After many protracted hardships, which they suffered in their attempts to find a resting place for themselves and posterity, they anchored in Cape Cod harbour, November 10.

3. The next day, after having engaged in solemn prayer and thanksgiving to God, the company formed a kind of contract with each other, for their future government. After this, some of the men armed themselves and went on shore for wood, and to make discoveries; they all returned, in the evening, without having seen any of the natives or the places of their habitation.

* Because they professed the attainment of greater purity than others.

They did not find a place which they judged suitable for a permanent residence, till Monday, December 11. This place they afterward called Plymouth, in memory of the Christian friends whom they left at a town of this name, when they took their departure from the mother country. The whole company went on shore, December 23, and very soon engaged in building, and in preparations to defend themselves against the inclemency of the winter and the attacks of the savages.

A most distressing mortality broke out among the colonists, and within three months after their arrival, scarcely fifty, out of the one hundred and one of their original number, remained alive. But in November, 1621, another ship arrived from England with thirty-five emigrants, who were now added to the colony.

4. During this year a *free school* was founded in Virginia. The college also at Henrico, mentioned chap. ii, 11, received new additions to its funds. That the cause of education should receive such attention at this early period, certainly shows well in the history of those ancient times. Connected with this also may be mentioned, the provision which the Virginia company made at this time for the support of the Gospel ministry. Each minister was allowed a quantity of produce, estimated at two hundred pounds per year.

5. March 22, 1622. A terrible massacre was perpetrated by the Indians on the Virginia colony. It is said to have been planned by the

savages to revenge the death of one of their warriors who was slain by the whites. And it is acknowledged by all who have examined the history of this country, that in too many instances the English were not at all careful about preserving the friendship and good will of the natives. Frequent hostilities and bloodshed were the consequence.

Three hundred and forty-seven persons, of both sexes, and of all ages, fell victims to savage barbarity in this conflict, during one day; and it was followed with a fierce and exterminating war; and to this was added the horrors and miseries of a most severe famine.

A reinforcement of one thousand three hundred persons was made to the colony from England this year; so that the losses by war and famine were more than counterbalanced.

6. In the beginning of 1623, a most severe drought prevailed among the people in Plymouth, which induced the government to appoint a day of fasting and prayer; and a day of public thanksgiving also was soon after set apart to acknowledge the goodness of God in the showers which he sent them. This was probably the commencement of the custom which prevails in New-England, and some others of the states, of appointing days of public fasting and thanksgiving.

A settlement at Cape Ann was commenced in 1624, and another at a place which the settlers called Weymouth; both being within the bounds of what afterward became the state of Massachusetts.

7. The foundation for the colony of Massachusetts was commenced this year, 1628. The first settlement was begun by a small company under the government of John Endicot, at a place called Naumkeak by the Indians, but the settlers gave it the name of Salem, and by this name it has ever since been known. In the course of the next year a company left this place, and began a settlement at Mishawum. To this place they gave the name of Charlestown.

Measures were taken during the fall of this year, 1629, to plant a colony within the bounds of what is now called the state of New-Hampshire. Two small settlements, however, had been commenced within these bounds as early as 1623, one of them at a place called Little Hober, and the other at Dover.

8. During the summer of 1630 a settlement was begun where the city of Boston now stands. The place was then called, by the Indians, Shawmut;—and others also at Dorchester, Watertown, and Roxbury, in the same vicinity. Much suffering among the people of Massachusetts and Plymouth colonies was occasioned during the winter of this year by the severity of the weather; such intense cold had never been experienced by any of the inhabitants before: there was a scarcity of provision also among them, and many of the people died. Notwithstanding the hardships and calamities with which those early settlers of this soil were assailed, yet they continued firm and unshaken in their pur-

pose, without ever regretting the pains and expense they had taken to secure for themselves and posterity the privileges and blessings of religious freedom.

9. Various laws were passed by the Massachusetts legislature during the years 1632-3. The court of assistants ordered that no member of the colony should make any use of tobacco *publicly*, and that every person should pay the sum of one penny as a tax or fine for making use of this noxious weed in any place. However singular this law may seem to us at this time, there can be no doubt but that it would add much to the health of the people were such a law to be made and enforced in every state throughout the union.

A law was passed requiring constables to present to the magistrates for correction, all "unprofitable fowlers" and "*tobacco takers*." The prices of labour were fixed also by the government for mechanics; and it was ordered, that no articles for trade imported from England should be sold for more than four pence on a shilling, above the first cost.

To account for these and other laws passed by those early settlers of this country, we must consider the object which they had in view in coming here, which was the establishment of a commonwealth, strictly religious in its character and operations. Hence, in 1631, it was decreed by a general court, that no one should be admitted a member of the corporation, or be allowed the privilege of voting,

who had not previously made a public profession of religion.

10. The first house was erected in Connecticut in 1633; the English having been in a friendly manner invited by some of the sachems or Indian chiefs in that region to do so. Some of the Plymouth colony first complied with this invitation, and in the space of one or two years they were followed by others, to the number of sixty, from Newton and Watertown, in Massachusetts. The place of their settlement was called Windsor.

In 1634, Roger Williams, who was a minister of Salem, for "heresy and sedition" was banished from the Massachusetts colony. He removed with his family to a place called by the Indians Mooshawsic, where he commenced a settlement which he called Providence. He visited England in about ten years after this, and obtained a charter of incorporation for "Providence and Rhode-Island Plantations." Universal toleration was given to all denominations equally in this state, which, together with the fertility of its soil, very much increased its population.

CHAPTER IV.

Settlements—Indian wars, &c.

1. THE year 1637 is remarkable in the history of the British colonies in North America, for the wars which were commenced between

the Indians and the whites, and by which the colonies were in many places throughout New-England exceedingly distressed.

There was a tribe of Indians living within the bounds of Connecticut, known by the name of the Pequods, or Pequots, who had frequently annoyed the settlers in their vicinity, by ravaging their property, and in several instances a number of the inhabitants had been killed. Between the Pequots and the Narragansetts, another tribe of Indians, living within the bounds of Rhode-Island, there had existed an implacable hatred; but the Narragansetts were friendly to the whites. The Pequots now proposed an amicable adjustment of their difficulties, and requested to have their assistance in prosecuting a contemplated war with the English. To this proposal, however, the Narragansetts refused to listen: they immediately communicated this intelligence to the colony in Connecticut, and invited the English to engage with them in a war with the Pequots.

2. In the meantime the Pequots continued their hostilities. In March of this year they made an assault on the commander of Saybrook fort and twelve of his men, three of whom were killed. In April they killed six men and three women near Weathersfield, as they were proceeding one day to their labour. They also killed twenty cows, and carried away two girls captives.

At this crisis the colonies were exceedingly alarmed. A court was immediately summoned, which met at Hartford, May 1, of this year. At

this court it was determined that an offensive war should be carried on against the Pequots. As this was viewed as a common cause among the different colonies, Massachusetts and Plymouth agreed to unite with Connecticut, and attempt the utter destruction of the Pequots.

May 24. An army, consisting of seventy-seven Englishmen, and about three hundred friendly Indians, commenced their march into the country of the enemy, under the command of Captain Mason. The next day this army was increased to the number of five hundred Indians. On the morning of the 26th of this month, Captain Mason had arrived at Mystic, one of the enemy's principal forts, within the limits of the present town of Stonington, Conn. The village was surrounded with trees and brush, designedly placed so by the Indians, as, if possible, to prevent the approach of an enemy. As they came near the village, the alarm was given by the barking of a dog; and a severe struggle ensued. The Indians resisted the attack with savage desperation, till, by the order of Captain Mason, their wigwams and the whole village was set in flames. In less than one hour and a half seventy of their dwellings were in ruins, and six hundred of the Indians slain.

Captain Mason had two men killed, and sixteen wounded.

3. In June following, another victory was gained over the Pequots, in a great swamp near Fairfield, Conn., by Captain Stoughton. Thirty men were killed, and fifty women and children

taken captives. Others were pursued to a swamp near New-Haven, where two hundred of the Pequots were either slain or taken prisoners.— Thus this bloody struggle was concluded, and a valiant tribe of the sons of the forest completely extirpated.

4. In the spring of 1638 a colony was commenced at Quinnapiac, which afterward took the name of New-Haven, and this, and a number of other places settled in the same vicinity, went by the name of the New-Haven colony, for some time after. In this, as in other cases of the English settlements, the land was regularly purchased of the natives, and for which a satisfactory price was given. .

This year the foundation was laid for Harvard college. The place where it was located being called Newtown, this name was changed to that of Cambridge, in memory of the seat of learning at a place of this name in England.

The province of Maryland, first settled in 1634, was divided into baronies and manors this year; and a number of laws and regulations were adopted by the assembly, the first of which any record appears in the province. Hartford, Windsor, and Weathersfield, three towns on the Connecticut River, adopted a constitution, and formed the commonwealth of Connecticut this year, 1639. A similar constitution was soon after adopted by the New-Haven colony. This year also a charter was obtained from the king of all the land from Pascataqua and Sagadahock, which was called the province of Maine.

5. From the above date to 1642, many new towns had been formed and settled within the limits of New-England ; the state of society was much improved, and the toil and sufferings of the emigrants seemed now to be abundantly rewarded. The people were generally supplied with the word of life, as within New-England alone there were at this time seventy-seven ministers settled over different Churches.

6. For several years a confederacy had been contemplated by the colonies of Plymouth, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New-Haven; this union was finally effected in May, 1643. There were special reasons for this confederacy; a general combination of the Indians against the English was feared; and the encroachments of the Dutch, Swiss, and French, who were settling in the vicinity. And then the colonies were strongly inclined to such a measure from a consideration of the religion which they professed, as well as a desire for the general peace and safety of the whole. Hence they took the name of "the United Colonies of New-England."

According to this confederacy, the colonies were mutually bound to assist each other in case of any invasion or war, though each was to retain its distinct and separate government. This union was of great utility to the colonies, and it was continued till their charters were taken away, about forty years after its formation, by James II.

7. This year, 1644, is memorable for a law that was passed by the legislature of Massachu-

setts, in relation to the *Baptists*. The preamble of this law states, that “divers” of the Baptists, “have, since our coming into New-England, appeared among ourselves, some whereof have (as others before them) denied the ordinance of magistracy, and the lawfulness of making war, and others the lawfulness of magistrates, which opinions, if they should be connived at by us, are like to be increased among us, and so must necessarily bring guilt upon us, infection and trouble to the Churches, and hazard to the commonwealth.”*

The next year the general court of Massachusetts ordered that a negro who had been “fraudulently and injuriously taken and brought from Guinea,” and sold to a Mr. Williams of Pascatqua, should be taken and “sent back to his native country without delay.”

8. In 1654 preparations were commenced for a college in New-Haven. It is worthy of constant remark, how closely the early settlers of this and the other New-England colonies devoted their first attention to the interests of learning and religion; nor should their posterity forget how deeply they are indebted to them on this account.

In July, 1656, the Quakers appeared in Massachusetts for the first time. The general court, considering them opposed, like the Baptists, to the civil and religious order of the commonwealth, banished the whole of them, twelve in number, out of the colony. No one will pretend to jus-

* Hazard Hist. Col.

tify these severities, at this period of the world, certainly ; and yet, it must be confessed, that the history of those times shows but too plainly that many of those sects, against whom laws were enacted, were highly censurable in their conduct. Their inveighing against the laws and regulations of the colonies was most evidently calculated to call down upon them many of the calamities which they suffered.

9. The next event of importance in our history is the granting of a new charter by King Charles II. to Connecticut. This was done in 1662. By this instrument this colony was now constituted a body corporate and politic, by the name of "The Governor and Company of the English Colony of Connecticut, in New-England, in America." Cotton Mather says, it was "as amply privileged a charter as was ever enjoyed perhaps by any people under the cope of heaven."

A similar one was granted the next year to Rhode-Island and Providence plantations.

About this time provision was made by the assembly of Virginia for the establishment and maintenance of a college. The preamble to this law says,—“The want of able and faithful ministers in this country deprives us of those great blessings and mercies that always attend upon the service of God.” Hence this act provides, that for the promotion of piety and learning, the education of youth, and the supply of the Gospel ministry, there should be land taken up for a college and free school ; and that with all con-

venient speed suitable buildings should be erected upon it for the entertainment of students and scholars.

An act of the British parliament, passed against dissenting ministers, took effect in August of this year; and two thousand of these men were separated from their churches and people, without any means of support for themselves or families; and very soon after they were forbidden the privilege of coming within five miles of any corporation in England. Some of them, however, did exercise their ministry contrary to this law; and as the consequence, they were shut up in prison, where several of them died; many others turned their attention to New-England, and here they found the privilege of which they were deprived in their mother country.

10. In 1663 a project was formed by Edward, earl of Clarendon, for settling the extensive territory lying to the southward of Virginia, and Charles II. granted him a charter for this purpose. This charter conveyed to the earl and his company all the land lying between the thirty-first and thirty-sixth degrees of north latitude, reserving to the king the sovereign dominion only. It gave them the power of enacting laws for their own regulation; also the right of appointing their own magistrates, and constituting their own courts of judicature; and to do every thing, in a word, necessary for the peace, defence, and prosperity of the colony.

And the charter directed farther, that such

freedom should be allowed in matters of religion, as the colonial government might, in its wisdom, think proper. All were to enjoy the privilege of thinking and acting in relation to this subject, as their consciences dictated ; provided the civil order of community were not thereby disturbed ; as “ it might happen that several of the inhabitants could not, in their private opinions, conform to the exercise of religion according to the liturgy and ceremonies of the Church of England.” This colony was called Carolina.

11. In January of this year a most tremendous earthquake was experienced throughout the northern parts of America. It was felt in New-England, New-York, and Canada ; but most sensibly in the latter place. It was first observed there a little past five in the evening. All was calm and serene, when a sudden and violent roar was heard, like that of a great fire ; the houses tottered and shook in every direction. This continued for about thirty minutes, and it was followed by a number of violent shocks during the same evening and the next day.

One writer thus describes the effects of the first shock :—“ The doors opened and shut of themselves, with a fearful clattering. The bells rang without being touched. The walls split asunder. The floors separated, and fell down. The fields put on the appearance of precipices ; and the mountains seemed to be moving out of their places. Many fountains and small rivers were dried up ; in others the water became sulphureous ; and in some, the channel in which

they ran before was so altered, that it could not be distinguished. Many trees were torn up, and thrown to a considerable distance; and some mountains appeared to be much broken and moved."

CHAPTER V.

Settlements—War with the Indians.

1. WE have before seen that the Dutch commenced the settlement of New-York in 1615, (see chap. ii, 10.) The English were frequently annoyed by these settlers, as they were of a different nation, and having interests different from most of the other colonies. It therefore became an object with King James II. to dispossess them. Accordingly, a fleet was fitted out in 1664, for this purpose, among others, under the command of Colonel Richard Nicolls; who proceeded directly to Manhattan. He demanded a surrender of Stuyvesant, the governor, who made a feeble attempt at resistance, but soon capitulated on certain conditions. The Dutch were to possess their property unmolested, and to be allowed the privileges of free citizens, and the freedom of trade to Holland. They were not to be disturbed in their modes of worship, and the rites of their Church polity. New Amsterdam, as this place had been called by the Dutch, now took the name of New-York, in honour of the duke of York and Albany, to

whom a grant had been made by James II. of several tracts of land, including New-Jersey, Delaware, and the colony which now took his name.

2. Soon after the above-named grant, the duke of York made over to Lord Berkley and Sir George Carteret the territory of New-Jersey. This name was given to this territory in compliment to Carteret, who had formerly been governor of the Isle of Jersey, in the English channel. Various settlements had been made in New-Jersey some time before this, by the Dutch and Danes.

Delaware, which was in the possession of the Dutch and Swedes, was also capitulated to the English this year, and became subject to the British crown.

The Connecticut and New-Haven colonies, which had till now (1665) been separate and independent communities, became united, under the charter granted by Charles II. three years before. New-York became an incorporated city in June of this year.

It will be remembered that Rhode-Island was settled by the Baptists, for the purpose of allowing unrestrained liberties of conscience in matters of religion; yet a law was passed by this state this year, by which Quakers were rendered *outlaws*, and by which their estates might be confiscated; however, it never was carried into effect.

3. The Dutch took possession of New-York the second time, in 1673. War having com-

menced between England and Holland, the latter sent a small squadron to destroy the commerce of the English colonies in America. This fleet, after effecting its object on the coast of Virginia, proceeded to New-York, and the city not being in a state for defence, it surrendered without resistance. But the next year a treaty of peace being ratified between Holland and Great Britain, New-York was conditionally restored to the English, and a new charter granted to the duke of York. Soon after the restoration of New-York to the English, many of the Dutch in the city and vicinity emigrated to Carolina. They settled on the southwest side of Ashley River, and they formed the first Dutch colony within the limits of Carolina.

4. As we have advanced in the course of this history thus far, we have seen the growing prosperity of the English colonies. In about fifty years the face of nearly this whole country had become materially changed; deserts had been made a fruitful field, and the wilderness caused to bud and blossom as the rose. The population in New-England alone amounted to as many as one hundred and twenty thousand inhabitants, and within its limits more than a hundred towns had been organized and settled. The habits of honest industry and economy still prevailed among the people, such habits as are always crowned more or less with comparative affluence and comfort.

But as the whites increased in their numbers and possessions, the hunting grounds and haunts

of the poor natives were narrowed and decreased, and those original proprietors of the American soil found their tribes and their privileges gradually wasting away before the rising power of their white neighbours. Hence, for some years, the Indians in many places had been watching the movements of the English with increasing jealousy. They saw and felt sufficient cause for alarm; and a plot was formed against the colonies in New-England, which, had it proved successful, would have entirely extinguished their existence.

5. An exterminating war was determined against the whites. In this war Philip, king of the Wampanoags, took the lead; hence it has since been known in history by the name of *King Philip's war*. He first procured the death of an Indian missionary who was a particular friend of the whites, for making known to them the plot of the Indians. For this murder three Indians were tried, convicted, and executed at Plymouth. One of these was the intimate friend and counsellor of Philip: he was instantly aroused to vengeance: he immediately called his men and equipped them for the bloody strife. At this time between three and four thousand warriors waited for his command. The first hostilities were commenced, June 24, 1675, in Swanzeey as the people were returning from public worship, it being a day of fasting and prayer, which had been appointed by the pious inhabitants under fearful apprehension of approaching calamities. Eight or nine persons were killed. The

alarm of war was now given throughout the colonies.

6. Two companies with one hundred and ten volunteers immediately set out from Boston, and on the 28th joined the Plymouth forces at Swanze; in the evening a skirmish ensued between the hostile parties, and one of the whites was killed; on the next day five or six of the Indians were killed.

Philip with his forces now fled into Pocasset, and entered a swamp. On the 18th of July the English pursued and attempted to charge them; but in this attempt they lost five of their men, and the Indians making their way deeper into the swamp, the English commander ordered a retreat. At this the savages seemed to take courage, and the torch of war was kindled throughout the country.

7. This was a most awful crisis. Imagine for one moment the situation of the whites. Their dwellings were few and far apart, and generally surrounded by thick and deep forests. The Indians lived in these forests and possessed every facility for acquainting themselves with the places where the whites might be found, whether at their devotions on the Sabbath, or within their own habitations with their families, or at work in their fields. Thus the savages had every imaginable opportunity for attacking them in their defenceless moments, and butchering the people often without a moment's warning; many were inhumanly scalped by their own firesides, or shot dead as they were proceeding to their

work ; others as they went to or from the house of God, or on errands, to visit their friends and relatives, fell victims to the stroke of the tomma-hawk, or were shot by some invisible foe who lay concealed in the thicket around them. No one could feel safe ; danger and death were the constant attendants of all ; fear and anxiety prevailed in every direction.

8. During the summer of this year engagements were very frequent between the whites and Indians : numbers were lost on both sides ; generally, however, the whites prevailed, but not without considerable damage, and which they were at this time but poorly able to bear, as the savages often burned their houses and destroyed their cattle and fields of grain.

A melancholy detail is given of the destruction of a Captain Lothrop and ninety men with him, at a place called from this circumstance *Bloody Brook*, but since known by the name of *Muddy Brook*, in Connecticut. He had been to Deerfield with a number of teams for grain, by order of the commanding officer at Hadley, the place of head quarters. He was returning, and having arrived near the south point of Sugarloaf-Hill, he was met and attacked by a party of seven hundred Indians. Lothrop's company was made up of young men, of whom one historian says, "they were the flower of the country." At first they were thrown into confusion, but they soon rallied, and fought with inconceivable bravery, till their resistance proved useless. Only seven or eight of a hundred escaped.

9. A decisive battle was fought on the 19th of December, 1675, in a swamp which lay three or four miles to the west of South Kingston, R. I. About one thousand eight hundred troops, and one hundred and sixty Indians under the command of Governor Winslow, of Plymouth, commenced their march from Petaquamscut on the day previous. They marched through a deep snow, and though the weather was quite cold, they passed the night in the open field. They arrived in sight of the Indian fort at one o'clock in the afternoon. This stood on a small tract of elevated ground in the middle of the swamp, surrounded and defended with a hedge about sixteen feet thick. The English rushed immediately to the onset. The struggle was desperate on both sides, and bloody. For some time the crisis seemed doubtful till fire was put to the Indian fort. Five or six hundred wigwams were now set in a blaze, and many Indian women and children perished in the conflagration. This was a dreadful scene! the shrieks of the children, with the exclamations of dying mothers, wrapt together in the devouring flames; the deep, dark volumes of smoke rolling up toward the heavens, and the roar of musketry, kept up for about three hours, conspired to render the scene inconceivably awful.

10. The Indians in the fort were estimated at four thousand, one thousand of whom perished in that fight, three hundred were taken prisoners, and the rest fled. The English lost eighty-five, who were either killed or died of their wounds.

This defeat was total, and from it the savages never recovered. But the war was continued, and a number of severe battles were fought after this, and much damage done to many of the white settlements, till August, 1676, when the finishing stroke was given to the contest by the death of King Philip. He was shot through the heart on an island called Mount Hope, not far from Bristol, R. I.

In the course of this war six hundred of the inhabitants of New-England were slain by the savages, about six hundred buildings, principally dwelling houses, were consumed, and twelve or thirteen towns entirely destroyed. These were distressing calamities, and it is reasonable to suppose that they must have checked for a while the growth and prosperity of the colonies. With so much toil and suffering were many of the blessings purchased which now so richly crown the people of these United States.

CHAPTER VI.

Oppression of the colonies—Insurrection in Virginia.

1. THE war with the Indians had scarcely terminated, when the New-England colonies found themselves involved in a new scene of calamities. Certain laws had some time before been passed in England, for the purpose of regulating the commerce of the colonies with each other and with other nations. By these laws, taxes were

imposed upon specified commodities, when carried from one colony to another, or when imported from any other country beside England. Complaints were now made in England against the New-England colonies for disregarding these acts of navigation, upon which the king immediately required that persons should be sent to England to answer in their behalf for the transgression of these laws. Persons were also commissioned from England to visit the colonies, and empowered to take measures for enforcing the strictest obedience to the navigation laws; and to add to their intolerance, it was also ordered "that no Mediterranean passes should be granted to New-England, to protect its vessels against the Turks, till it is seen what dependence it will acknowledge on his majesty, or whether his custom-house officers are received as in other colonies.

2. These acts were considered by all the colonies as exceedingly cruel and oppressive, inasmuch as they were passed by a parliament in which they were not represented, and in direct violation of their chartered rights. They bore with great weight on the trade of Virginia and Delaware, and the discontent of the people was soon manifested in acts of open rebellion. Virginia was now at war with the Susquehannah Indians. Nathaniel Bacon, a bold and eloquent young Englishman, who was at this time in the colony, seized on this opportunity to ask a commission to proceed against the savages. Berkeley, the governor, however, refused to grant

him his request, and treated him with indignity. Bacon soon after proceeded to Jamestown and besieged the grand assembly with six hundred armed followers, and demanded a commission. It was granted; but he had scarcely left the town when the governor, by the advice of the assembly, denounced him publicly as a rebel.

3. Bacon, on hearing what the governor had done, returned immediately to Jamestown, and the governor, finding himself unable to resist him, fled to Accomack. He finally gathered a few of his friends and proceeded against the insurgents, but without much success. Jamestown was burned by the insurgents in the conflict, and a number of lives were lost. But in the midst of the excitement Bacon was taken sick and died; the commotion very soon after died away, and the insurgents returned to their homes in peace.

From 1676 to 1679 various measures were adopted by the colonies for the purpose of conciliating the favour of the British parliament; agents were appointed to visit England, addresses were made to the king, and laws were passed to punish high treason, and to require all persons to swear allegiance to the king, but all to no purpose; the acts of trade were not regarded, and the difficulty between the mother country and the colonies still continued.

4. In 1680 New-Hampshire was separated from the jurisdiction of Massachusetts, and became a distinct colony. During this year the foundation was laid for the present city of

Charleston, in South Carolina. The settlers first located themselves on the banks of the river Ashley, but they afterward removed and commenced the city at a place called "Oyster point," which is formed by the confluence of the rivers Ashley and Cooper; thirty houses were erected the first year.

Pennsylvania was founded in 1681. A charter was granted by Charles II., king of England, of a tract of territory between the bay and river of Delaware, and Lord Baltimore's province of Maryland, to William Penn; and after him this tract has since been called Pennsylvania.* The first settlements were commenced by the Quakers. The next year Penn laid out the plan of a city, to which he gave the name of Philadelphia.

5. A letter having been sent this year, 1682, from the king to the people of Massachusetts, complaining of their continued disregard of the navigation laws, the general court resolved to despatch an agency to England for the purpose of adjusting the difficulty; but this measure did not succeed.

It was during this year that M. de la Sale descended the Mississippi River to the sea, and in honour of Louis XIV., king of France, he gave the name of Louisiana to the vast tract of country watered by that majestic river.

In June 1684 the high court of chancery in England gave judgment on the controversy which had now been pending for some years

* Literally, Penn's Woods.

between the king and the governor and company of Massachusetts. The court decreed that their charter, the safeguard of their liberties, should be cancelled, and that the government of this colony should be placed in the hands of the king, the bitterest, firmest enemy of the people. The other colonies had been fearing the like fate, in their own case, which had now befallen Massachusetts; and, to prevent this, prayers, petitions, and remonstrances were laid at the feet of King Charles and his successor, James II., but all to no effect.

6. The prospect before the New-England colonies at this time was distressing in the extreme: after having endured the toils and dangers incident to the settlement of a new country; after having patiently suffered privations and hardships, the bare thought of which would seem enough to make humanity shudder, their liberties, the fruit of their labours, were now about to be wrested from them and placed at the disposal of a merciless tyrant. Proceedings, similar to those which had deprived Massachusetts of her charter, were taken against the other colonies. Rhode-Island gave up hers; Plymouth colony sent hers to the king, with a respectful request that it should be restored again; but this was not granted.

In December, 1686, Sir Edmond Andros arrived in Boston, who had been arbitrarily appointed, by the king, governor of all New-England, except Plymouth. This appointment was still more afflicting to the people: this man was

known as having been most tyrannical in his proceedings when he was governor in New-York a few years before. His conduct now confirmed all that the people had feared concerning him. He immediately proceeded to restrain the liberty of the press, he introduced new regulations with regard to the settlements of estates, marriage, and public worship. Exorbitant fees were extorted by himself and all who were employed under him; and without even the show of justice he compelled the people to take out new titles to their land, and for which large sums were exacted.

7. In October, 1687, this man proceeded with his suit and about sixty regular troops, to Hartford, and demanded the charter of Connecticut of the assembly, which was then in session in that place. But this was too precious a treasure to be thus surrendered without reluctance. It was secreted by a stratagem, beyond the reach of Andros; but he closed the records of the assembly, and assumed the reins of government without it.

The next year this wicked man continued to oppress the people in Massachusetts. He caused a most unjust tax to be raised on the polls and estates, and also upon all goods imported into the country, and fined and imprisoned some of the selectmen for delaying to assess it.

It was now determined to add New-York and the Jerseys to the jurisdiction of New-England; and so Andros was appointed vice general and admiral over the whole.

These measures but increased the sufferings of the people, and excited their contempt and hatred for the man who had been the cause of their calamities. However, we may believe that the great Avenger of wrongs interposed, at this time, for the afflicted colonies, and averted the evils with which their existence was threatened.

CHAPTER VII.

Reflections—State of this country when first discovered—Character and habits of the natives—Their decline and extinction—Progress of civilization—Character and manners of the colonists.

1. It may be proper for us to pause now, for a few moments, and reflect on some of the events noticed in the foregoing pages. The facts we have narrated are among the most interesting features which serve to make up the volume of universal history. We cannot therefore consider them too attentively, seeing they are the seeds from which our national existence has sprung, and the means which have contributed more or less in the formation of the habits and manners of one of the greatest and most powerful of nations.

2. We have now passed over a period of nearly two hundred years. At its commencement this vast continent was one unbroken wilderness. We now see it diversified with plains, hills, fruitful fields, and villages, and cities,

scattered in every direction; and scarcely a foot of land can be found but which bears the marks of human industry. But a little less than two centuries before this period, almost one impenetrable forest was spread over this extensive continent. Within its dark and solemn recesses the catamount and panther ranged undisturbed for their food. The wolf, the bear, and the wild cat; the elk, moose, and the buffalo, were covered in its shade. Birds of almost every description, and in innumerable flocks, enlivened the woods and the air with their notes. The spontaneous productions of the soil served both the savage and the beast for food.

3. At this time it is supposed the natives of this country amounted to as many as one hundred and fifty thousand. They were divided into different clans or tribes, and each tribe was known by its appropriate name, and generally by the place of its residence. One above the rest in every tribe was acknowledged as the sachem, or chief. Sometimes, in important business, he consulted others in the affairs of the government; but generally his will was supreme law, and his decisions final. At other times a number of chiefs deliberated together in council, when they determined on war or peace. One spoke at a time, and each at his pleasure; to which the others listened with the profoundest silence; and for giving their attention to what is said when addressed by a public speaker, the natives of our western wilds are remarkable even to this day.

4. The persons of the savages were generally well proportioned; they were tall and straight, with long black hair, and of a red or copper colour. A small covering about the middle of the body was all the clothing they wore in the summer, but in winter they wrapt themselves in the furs and skins of wild beasts. Their habitations consisted of a few poles set into the ground around a circle of twelve or fifteen feet, and brought together in a point at the top; these were then covered with turf, or the bark of trees, so as to shed the snow and rain. These dwellings were called *wee-ke-wams*, or wigwams.

5. The savages were not skilled in any of the sciences or arts which now distinguish civilized life. The use of the saw, the plane, the plough, and the like, were altogether unknown to them. Their labours were confined simply to the construction of their wigwams, their bows, their stone arrows, and hatchets, and mortars for pounding parched corn. Specimens of their arrows and hatchets may still be found in almost every part of America, and in many places they are laid up as works of interesting curiosity.

Their food consisted chiefly of corn, berries of various kinds, peas, beans, potatoes, &c, and the flesh of various beasts, and different kinds of fish, with which the rivers and lakes generally abounded.

They had no knowledge of books or letters; their time was spent principally in war, in hunting, and in amusements, such as dancing, leaping, and shooting at a mark.

6. As to their peculiar character, dispositions, and views, some of them often exhibited the brightest evidence of genius, and traits of character which combine in constituting the noblest feelings of our nature. Witness the case of Pocahontas, chap. ii, 5. And the persevering, undaunted courage, and patriotism of King Philip, when considered with the age in which he lived, the circumstances with which he was surrounded, and the motives also by which he was actuated, form a subject of melting interest to every person who has a heart to feel.

It is true the death of this valiant warrior, at the time it happened, excited universal rejoicing, because it was then viewed in connection with all the horrors of a merciless and exterminating war; he was considered as a savage, implacable enemy, and the blow by which he fell was hailed as the token of approaching peace, and the close of a protracted and most distressing conflict. Time, however, has changed the scene, and we can now contemplate the character of King Philip without seeing the curling flame and ascending smoke of the faggot, or hearing the appalling sound of the warwhoop. And if we are to judge of him as we now judge of others who have been called great men, then Philip of Pokanoket was a hero and a patriot, a valiant warrior, and a mighty sovereign. His penetrating mind foresaw the increasing power of the whites, the loss of his dominion, and the utter extinction of his nation. He put forth one mighty effort to save them, but that effort failed.

Had King Philip enjoyed the privileges of education and the blessings of civilized life, his name might have been handed down to posterity as one of the great men who have attracted the attention of a wondering and admiring world.

7. One cannot reflect without melancholy on the fate which has attended the original inheritors of this soil. Where are those once powerful and warlike tribes who ranged over these hills, gathered on the plains, or skimmed over the lakes and rivers at their pleasure, and undisturbed? This widely-extended territory was all their own; here they kindled their council fires without molestation; no field nor dwelling of the white man interrupted their chase of the stag or the deer. Hundreds and thousands in a tribe, and by thousands of these tribes, these Atlantic shores were once covered; the hill, the dale, or the deep and gloomy forest, was alike a home for them. But they have nearly all passed away and gone down to the shades of death. At the presence of the white man their strength has departed, their numbers have wasted away, their forests have disappeared; even their very name is well nigh perished and forgotten.

8. Another race of men now occupy their hunting grounds, and by other hands their fields are tilled; where they paddled their bark canoes large ships of commerce are now seen floating, villages and populous cities have now taken the place of their rude wigwams and council fires.

Up to the close of the period before mentioned, circumstances had been working gradually

in giving some peculiar features to the character and manners of the colonists. From a small beginning they had now increased to about two hundred thousand, and this in the space of about eighty-two years. For the spirit of self sacrificing, of bold and hardy enterprise, the early settlers of this country were certainly never exceeded by any others. They willingly forsook the blessings and refinements of civilized life in Europe, unaccustomed to the difficulties and privations which their settlement in a wilderness would cost them. They cleared the forests, braved dangers, endured suffering, encountered the horrors of savage warfare, established themselves in a new country, defended their liberties when assailed by a foreign tyrant, and they laid wisely-concerted plans for the good of their posterity; and by these means the wilderness which their toil subdued has become as the garden of the Lord; and a wise and powerful nation has sprung into being, to diffuse the blessing of civil and religious liberty all over the world.

CHAPTER VIII.

The charters restored or renewed to the colonies—
Witchcraft—King William's war.

1. IN 1689 things began to take a new turn in the colonies. King James left the throne of England in December the previous year, and William, prince of Orange, was proclaimed king

on the 16th of February following. The news, however, had scarcely reached the colonies, when the people of Boston seized Andros, and about fifty of his associates, and confined them in prison. The former officers of the colony, whom Andros had deposed, were immediately reinstated, and on the 29th of May, William was proclaimed king with great rejoicings.

2. Massachusetts, Rhode-Island, and Connecticut now resumed their charters, of which they had been deprived under the former government of King James. Their example was soon after followed by Virginia and Maryland. When the intelligence of William and Mary's ascension was received in New-York, the lieutenant governor and council were about to proclaim them, but while they waited for some consultation with regard to the public safety, one Jacob Leisler, and about fifty men, seized the fort. This occasioned a division among the people which was far from being pleasant. Peace was not restored to the colony till 1691, when Colonel Sloughter, as the king's governor, called an assembly who formed a constitution which secured the rights of the people.

3. In 1692 a most extraordinary delusion broke out in the Massachusetts colony. It is scarcely possible to read any plain account of it at this day without horror, or even for one to believe one half which he reads. An infatuation so strange, spreading such disorder through the community, and so manifestly the offspring of sheer ignorance and superstition, may well form

an item in the history of the place where it occurred, that after ages may learn the better how to prize the *light* by which the mists of such pernicious and silly errors have been so completely dissipated.

The infatuation which we are now about to notice, was denominated *witchcraft*. However, it is believed, there is nothing at this time in this country, of which we can obtain any definite knowledge by either of the five senses, which will answer what was meant by this word at the time above mentioned. That there is an evil agency in this world called in the Bible the devil, and Satan, is admitted by all true believers in that good book ; but that persons were at this time possessed by evil spirits in the way which was then supposed, is not supported by any evidence which is entitled to credit.

4. Toward the last of February of this year, some children in Danvers, then a part of Salem, began to be strangely affected. They exhibited singular contortions of their features and limbs : whether they did this at first in sport, or merely to do mischief, does not appear. But their idle stories about themselves were believed, and by many who should have known better. Very soon the infection spread into other places, and many seemed really to covet the mania by hearing and telling the reports that were put in circulation about it.

Suspicious and accusations now became frequent ; courts were formed and trials instituted for the purpose of punishing those who were

thought to be guilty, till finally two hundred persons were accused, one hundred and fifty were apprehended and shut up in prison, and nineteen others had suffered death upon the gallows.

5. The people were alarmed. Reason began to work ; the people seemed to awake as from the slumbers of night ; they looked into the subject, considered more minutely the nature of the supposed crime, the inexplicit and often obscure and silly testimony by which it was thought to be proved, together with the character of many who were accused, and they finally began to suspect themselves as having been too credulous on a subject involving such solemn consequences. The delusion gradually died away ; those condemned were pardoned by the governor, and others who were imprisoned were set at liberty. Some of the persons who had served as jurors, by whom a number of unfortunate victims had been condemned to suffer death, afterward publicly confessed their error and asked forgiveness. And one of the Churches in Danvers, which had expelled a person who was hung for the supposed crime of witchcraft, revoked the sentence a number of years afterward, assigning this as the reason,—“that it might not stand against her to all generations.”

6. We have seen above that King James left the British throne in December, 1688. He fled to France, and the French king attempted to support him ; as the consequence the two kingdoms and their colonies were involved in war. The next year the governor of Canada fitted out

three expeditions against the American colonies. One party of one hundred and fifty French and Indians marched against New-York. They fell upon Schenectady, a village on the Mohawk River, which they entered at eleven o'clock on the night of February 8. The unsuspecting inhabitants were in a profound sleep: the cold was exceedingly severe, and the snow so deep that travelling was deemed almost impossible. Upon a preconcerted signal, the inhuman soldiers rushed into the houses; men, women, and children were dragged from their beds and butchered in the snow; the dwellings were set on fire, and the naked inmates compelled to flee in a dark night through the cold and snow for safety, or to perish in the flames. Sixty persons were massacred, thirty were taken prisoners, the rest fled through the snow and naked to Albany.—Twenty-five of them lost their limbs and were otherwise debilitated through the sufferings which they endured in their flight.

7. A second party proceeded to Salmon Falls, in New-Hampshire, where they surprised and killed thirty of the inhabitants, and carried away fifty-four prisoners. The other party attacked the people in Saco, Maine; they destroyed the fort and killed and captured one hundred of the people.

These atrocities alarmed the colonies. Commissioners were appointed to consult on the common safety, and a congress of the colonies was held in the city of New-York on the first of May 1690.

An expedition was now fitted out by Massachusetts of seven vessels and eight hundred men, which proceeded against Port Royal ; the fort, not being in a state for defence, surrendered with but little resistance. Another attempt was fitted out against Canada, but it failed.

8. From 1690 to 1697 this war, which is distinguished by the name of *King William's War*, raged between the French and English colonies with unexampled severity. Barbarities were perpetrated by the Indians and the French, in this protracted contest, the most shocking to humanity, and when described scarcely to be believed. Women in a state of maternity were ripped up, or otherwise inhumanly murdered. Sometimes the savages seemed to rack their invention to find methods of torture for the unhappy victims who unfortunately fell into their hands. Infants were dashed to pieces in the sight of their mothers, or at other times they were well nigh strangled and then thrown at their mothers to be recovered and restored to life that they might with their own eyes see again the bloody work repeated, till their cries were hushed by a blow from the Indian hatchet ; or, perhaps, they were thrown upon a bed of coals to broil. One poor little thing was found fastened to the body of its dead mother, where it was vainly endeavouring to draw nourishment from her clay-cold breast.

Some were spared to endure tortures more cruel than even death itself. Often amidst rain and snow, and in the severest cold, they were

compelled to travel by night and by day, without shoes or clothes, and frequently with but a morsel of food for a number of days and nights together. Sometimes they expired at the stake to which they had been tied, and surrounded with faggots they were roasted to death with a slow fire ; or, to make the death still more cruel, splinters of pitch-knots were forcibly driven into their flesh in different parts of the body and set on fire ; and even this death might be preferred to many of the savage tortures which often awaited those who were spared.

9. An act was passed in 1694 in the Massachusetts legislature which deserves notice here ; it required the selectmen in each town to post up in every public house within the town, a list of the names of all persons reputed tipplers, or common drunkards ; and it imposed a fine upon every keeper of such houses, who might give them entertainment.

Yale College in New-Haven, Connecticut, was founded in 1701. The churches now having become numerous, a greater want was felt of an efficient and learned ministry ; and it being some distance to Cambridge, it was resolved by some of the ministers to have a college in their immediate vicinity. A petition was soon after presented to the general assembly, in which it was stated,—“ That from a sincere regard to, and zeal for upholding the Protestant religion, by a succession of learned and orthodox men, they had proposed that a collegiate school should be erected in this colony, wherein youth should be

instructed in all parts of learning to qualify them for public employments in Church and civil state." The college was first established at Saybrook, and afterward removed to New-Haven.

10. It may not, perhaps, be out of place here to observe, in connection with the above and the like items of history before noticed in this work, that we are indebted to religion and to ministers of the Gospel for about all the institutions of learning in our country. It is a fact, therefore, that ministers of the Protestant faith have generally been the guardians of common and liberal education. A minister of the Gospel who has the advantages of learning himself, will not lack the disposition to promote its blessings among others as far as may be in his power. It would be out of place to stop here to show how deeply the Church of Christ and the civilized nations of the earth are indebted to sound learning and the light of education.

11. In the latter part of the year above named, an attempt was made by the inhabitants of Boston to prevent the introduction of negro slavery into the colony. We have before seen that the first slave imported into New-England was taken by order of the general court and sent back to Guinea. To these early efforts, it may be, Massachusetts now owes her exemption from the evils of the slavery system.

CHAPTER IX.

War of the colonies with the Indians—Spaniards—
and French.

1. WE have now again to detail the horrors of war, and trace, in the history of the times we are describing, the accounts which have been handed down to us of the shocking cruelties of savage barbarity.

King William III., of whom we have spoken in the former chapter, died in 1702, and was succeeded in the government of England by Ann, princess of Denmark, and daughter of James II. Soon after she ascended the throne of England she declared war with France, which of course, as before, involved the American colonies.

2. The Indians, who were at peace with the French in Canada, were now ready again to lift the bloody hatchet, and rush forth to the work of cruelty and death, at the sound of the startling warwhoop. On February 29, 1704, early in the morning, a party of French and Indians, to the number of three hundred, made a most violent assault on the inhabitants of Deerfield, Mass. The people had been apprized of an attack which was meditated against them, and twenty soldiers had been ordered, by Colonel Schuyler of Albany, to guard the town. The watch patrolled the streets until within about two hours before day, and then imprudently fell asleep. The enemy seized on this opportunity,

and fell upon the unguarded inhabitants; in a short space forty-seven of them were killed, and one hundred and twelve taken prisoners.

3. The case of Mr. Williams, the minister of the town, deserves particular notice, as it is only by singling out individual cases of this kind that we can form any just idea of the unparalleled sufferings which many of the inhabitants of those times had to endure.

A party of twenty broke into his house, and entered the room where he was sleeping. Being unable to defend himself, he was immediately seized, bound, and kept standing nearly an hour in the cold without his clothes. They proceeded next to ransack and plunder his house; and two of his children, with a coloured female servant, were inhumanly murdered before his eyes. His wife, who had but a few days before become the mother of their last child, was now compelled to leave her bed, and, in company with her husband and surviving children, started off on a journey to Canada. The next day, Mrs. Williams, while attempting to wade through a small river, for the want of strength fell down, and was unable to proceed. The savage who took her away immediately cleft her head with his hatchet, and left her weltering in her blood. Her husband was not suffered to assist her, being bound, and nearly famished. Before they reached Canada, about twenty of the prisoners shared a like fate with Mrs. Williams.

4. In 1706 Carolina was invaded by the Spaniards. The Spanish government considered

Carolina as a part of Florida, and to which a claim was justified on the account of its having been first discovered by them. A fleet was sent against Charleston; but by the vigilance and activity of Sir N. Johnson, it was soon repulsed and defeated. The following year an expedition was fitted out against Port Royal, by Massachusetts, New-Hampshire, and Rhode-Island. This expedition consisted of one thousand men; but it failed for the want of a suitable man to conduct it.

5. Another expedition was fitted out against this place in 1710, under the command of Colonel Nicholson, who left England for this purpose with five frigates and a bomb ketch. He was joined by about twenty-five transports, belonging to the colonies, beside five regiments of troops, and sailed from Boston on the 18th of September. The fort surrendered on the 24th, and in honour of Queen Ann was afterward called *Annapolis*.

6. The war continued to rage with violence between Canada and the colonies up to 1713. Many towns on the frontiers were attacked by the enemy, and the inhabitants either put to the sword, or carried away into a tedious captivity. A treaty of peace was concluded on the 31st of March this year between France and England. This event gave peace to the colonies at the north, but it did not relieve the people in Carolina; for in about a year after a war broke out in South Carolina, which seemed for awhile to endanger the very existence of the colony. A

plan was formed which contemplated its utter extinction, and in which all the tribes of Indians from Florida to Cape Fear were concerned. In this plot the Yamasees, a powerful tribe, inhabiting a large territory back of Port Royal Island, were the most conspicuous.

7. On the 15th of April, 1715, the alarm of war was given; and in Pocataligo and its vicinity, in the space of a few hours, about ninety persons were murdered. The alarm was soon spread over the country, and the inhabitants put themselves in a posture of defence. A number of engagements were had with the Indians, in which about four hundred of the inhabitants were slain, when, finally, the tribe who took the lead in this conspiracy was expelled from the colony into the Spanish dominions, and the dreaded calamities in a measure averted.

8. Till the year 1719 the government of Carolina had been held in the hands of proprietors. The people had become generally dissatisfied with their administration, and they determined to resist it at all hazards. An instrument for uniting the people of the colony to this effect was drawn up and signed by nearly the whole of the inhabitants. The government was soon after taken into the hands of the king. The province in 1729 was divided into North and South Carolina, and accordingly two governors were appointed from England.

9. Various causes had contributed to irritate some of the eastern Indians, particularly those about the Penobscot, Norridgewock, Cape Sable,

St. François, and St. Johns; and in 1724 they commenced hostilities against some of the eastern settlements in New-England. Two or three years before this they had done repeated injuries to many of the settlers in their vicinity; so that numbers of them removed. A treaty of peace was, however, concluded with them in 1725.

10. The settlement of the state of Georgia was projected in 1732, and commenced in the course of the next year. It was taken principally from the chartered limits of Carolina, which then remained unsettled. The first settlers came over with James Oglethorp, Esq., and landed at Charleston, whence they proceeded to Savannah River, and commenced the city which still bears this name. In the regulations adopted by the trustees for the management of this colony, the importation of rum, and the use of negroes, were strictly prohibited. In 1736 this colony was visited by the Rev. Messrs. John and Charles Wesley. They landed at Savannah on Friday, February 6, in company with James Oglethorp, Esq., with whom they sailed. They tarried in the colony about two years, preaching the Gospel to the Indians and others as they found opportunity. During this time Mr. John Wesley formed a small society similar to those he afterward formed in England; but it did not continue long after he left Savannah.

11. The settlement of Georgia makes up the thirteen colonies which afterward constituted the thirteen United States of America. They were

these, viz. Virginia, Massachusetts, New-Hampshire, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.

12. In 1740 war having been declared against Spain by Great Britain, and General Oglethorp being appointed to the chief command in South Carolina and Georgia, he planned and executed an expedition against St. Augustine. With four hundred men selected out of his regiment and a large party of Indians he proceeded to Florida; he took a small fort about twenty-five miles from St. Augustine, and left in it a garrison of about sixty men. A few days after he was joined by a large reinforcement from Virginia and Carolina, so that his army amounted to more than two thousand men. The Spaniards evacuated Fort Moosa on his approach, and fled into the town of St. Augustine, two miles distant.

Oglethorp was now joined by a number of twenty-gun ships off St. Augustine bar, and finding his attempts to take the town by storm ineffectual, he resolved to turn the siege into a blockade.

13. But all his exertions were fruitless. The Spanish, notwithstanding the precaution of the English, contrived the means by which they received a competent supply of provisions and troops. They sent out a party of three hundred men, who surprised Fort Moosa and retook it. The English finally became discouraged by sickness and the extreme heat of the climate.

Oglethorp finally abandoned the expedition and returned to Frederica.

In 1742 the Spanish sent out an expedition against Georgia. At this time they had not relinquished their claim to this province. A fleet of thirty sail was now fitted out, and manned with three thousand men under the command of Don Manuel de Monteano. They sailed up the river Alatahama beyond Fort Simons, where Ogelthorp was stationed, and landed their men. Their object was to penetrate through the woods to Frederica ; but frequent encounters took place between them and the English, and in one of them the Spaniards lost a lieutenant and captain, who were killed, and one hundred more taken prisoners.

14. Finding himself unable to stand out against the encroachments of the enemy, Oglethorp now resorted to stratagem to make up what he lacked in the force of arms. He wrote a letter to a French soldier who had just before deserted him and fled to the Spanish lines, addressing him with feigned confidence as though he had been a spy from the English. In this letter Oglethorp pressed the Frenchman to encourage the Spaniards to commence an attack, and requested him to use every means in his power to persuade them to believe that Frederica was in a weak and defenceless state ; but if he could not succeed in this to urge them to tarry at Fort Simons at least three days more, till he should have a reinforcement of two thousand land forces, and six British ships of war. This

letter was carried by a Spanish captive, who was directed to deliver it to the French deserter, but he handed it as was anticipated to the Spanish commander. It had its desired effect ; while they were hesitating as to what measures should be adopted for their defence, three ships appeared in sight off the coast. These were instantly thought by the Spaniards to be the fleet mentioned in the above letter : they immediately set fire to the fort, and embarked, leaving behind them several of their cannon with a quantity of provisions. Thus in an hour of threatened destruction, the colony was delivered from bloodshed and ruin.

15. The next event of importance in our history is the declaration of war by George II., king of England, against France. This was in 1744. The town of Louisbourg, on the island of Cape Breton, was built by the French as a security to their navigation and fishery, and by its extraordinary fortifications was thought to be almost impregnable. In times of peace this place was known to form a safe retreat for the French ships, and in war it afforded many advantages to the French against their enemies. An expedition was accordingly planned in New-England in which the other colonies were requested to join, for the reduction of this "Gibraltar of America," as it was called. In a few months an army of four thousand men was raised and equipped for the service ; and by the middle of April, 1745, they had arrived safe at Canso. Soon after they were joined by Com-

modore Warren with a fleet of four ships from England.

16. After a severe struggle the town surrendered, together with the island of Cape Breton. The capture of this place was a most valuable acquisition to the English, as, beside securing the colonies in their fisheries, the stores and prizes which fell into their hands amounted to nearly a million of pounds sterling.

But this event exasperated the French exceedingly, and they determined now to seek revenge. In 1746 a powerful fleet was fitted out against the colonies, consisting of forty ships of war, fifty-six transports, and three thousand five hundred men, under the command of Duke D'Anville. As this armament neared the American coast the people throughout the New-England colonies became exceedingly alarmed. But, as the pious of that day believed, Providence interposed for their deliverance. The French ships were shattered by storms, and some of them were shipwrecked; sickness prevailed among the crew, the admiral and vice admiral both died suddenly, till finally disappointed and disheartened, the ships which were saved from destruction left the coast and returned to France.

17. Other engagements took place between the French and the English, from this to the time when peace was declared in 1748. The treaty was signed at Aix la Chapelle, Oct. 7th. In this treaty Cape Breton was restored to the French in consideration of some other places cap-

tured by them which were now given up to the English. But unhappily for both countries this peace was not of long continuance.

The events we have noticed in this chapter embrace a period of a little less than fifty years, and yet it seems to have been one continued scene of war and bloodshed. A consideration of that age, and the situation of the different nations, as well as the progress of light among them, will suggest to us the allowance which should now be made for many of the evils in which they were involved.

CHAPTER X.

War with France—and the Indians.

1. IN the treaty of peace settled between France and England noticed at the conclusion of the last chapter, the way was incautiously left open for future disagreement. The precise boundaries of Nova Scotia, which was ceded to Great Britain, were not defined; but it was stipulated in the treaty that these should be fixed upon at some future period by commissioners appointed by each nation for this purpose. In the meantime encroachments were repeatedly made by the French upon the territory ceded to the English, which led to open ruptures between the people of the two nations, and finally to the declaration of war. This was in 1756.

2. It is truly painful in tracing the history of

any country to find so much which shows the wicked passions of designing men, and gives such convincing evidence of the weakness and depravity of human nature. But so it is, and we must take things as we find them. To know what has preceded us in the affairs of this world, may be useful to us so far as we are influenced to shun the bad example of those who have erred and fallen, and to choose the path which the great and good Being has promised to crown with his favour and blessing.

3. Measures were now taken in England to prosecute the war in these colonies with the French. The earl of Loudoun was appointed commander in chief of the troops in America, but he not being prepared to sail immediately, General Abercrombie was commanded to take his place, and he was ordered to proceed to this country without delay for this purpose ; and in June he met the troops of the provinces then assembled in Albany, and awaiting the arrival of a commander from the mother country.

A colonial council, which met at New-York, had agreed to raise ten thousand men for an expedition against Crown Point ; six thousand for an expedition against Niagara ; and three thousand for another against Fort du Quesne,* in all nineteen thousand, beside two thousand who were to proceed up the Kennebec River for the purpose of annoying the enemy on the eastern frontiers. This complement however was not raised from the colonies, nor did those who were

* Pronounced *Du Kane*.

raised proceed on each of the expeditions as was contemplated.

4. While the British and colonial officers were meditating an attack on Crown Point, their attention was arrested with the news of five thousand of the enemy who were on their march to Oswego. The garrison here having expended their ammunition, left the fort, of which the French soon after took possession. The English on leaving this fort proceeded up the river about four miles to Fort George. On the next day they were attacked by the French, and being unable to defend themselves, they surrendered, to the number of one thousand four hundred men.

The French were again successful in an assault on Fort Granby, near the bounds of Pennsylvania. About this time the Indians on the Ohio River having killed about one thousand of the inhabitants on the western frontiers, Colonel Armstrong, with a company of about three hundred provincials, proceeded to Kittaning, the principal residence of those Indians, and demolished it. In this attack about forty of the Indians were killed, and eleven English prisoners whom they had taken were released.

5. During the commencement of 1757 an expedition was meditated against Louisbourg by Lord Loudoun and the governors of the New-England provinces. But while the arrangements were in preparation for this enterprise, the French had so completely fortified their position at that place, that the project was deferred.

Montcalm, finding the forces had left Halifax that had been carried there for the purpose of engaging in the expedition against Louisbourg, now resolved to make a descent upon Fort William Henry, situated on the shore of Lake George. He advanced with an army of nine thousand men; the garrison at this fort consisted of about two thousand five hundred, and the fortifications about the fort were strong and defensible. The fort made a gallant and spirited resistance for six days, but not receiving assistance from General Webb, who was stationed at Fort Edward with an army of four thousand for this purpose, they capitulated. The garrison were to be allowed the honours of war; the French were pledged to protect them against the Indians, till they reached Fort Edward, but this pledge, however, was not regarded, as the savages, connected with the French, rushed upon the English as they were marching out of the fort, and plundered and murdered them in cool blood.

6. The prospect for the colonies was now, 1758, generally felt to be discouraging. Their arms in many instances, the past year, had been unsuccessful. The entire possession of Lake George and Lake Champlain had fallen into the hands of the French, and not only so, but their success at Oswego gave them the uncontrolled dominion over those other lakes which unite the St. Lawrence and the Mississippi. These and other advantages against the colonies, served in a great measure to cast a shade over their future destiny.

A change, however, which was effected in the British ministry the year previous, seemed to work some in their favour, and to promise a brighter prospect. They were considerably encouraged by the attention shown them by Mr. Pitt, who was now at the head of the new administration in England. He addressed a letter to the governors of the colonies, assuring them of the most efficient aid from England, and requesting them to raise as many troops in the different colonies as the number of the inhabitants would allow. With this call the colonies were ready to comply, and as early as May, of this year, fifteen thousand troops from Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New-Hampshire were raised, and, according to the promise of Mr. Pitt, a formidable fleet, with about twelve thousand regulars from England, had now arrived at Halifax, under the command of Admiral Boscawen, and were ready to join them.

7. Three expeditions were now proposed ; the first was to be against Louisbourg ; the second against Ticonderoga and Crown Point ; and the third against Fort du Quesne. On the expedition against Louisbourg, Admiral Boscawen sailed on the 28th of May from Halifax, with a fleet of twenty ships of the line and eighteen frigates, and an army of fourteen thousand men. On the 2d of June the English fleet arrived before Louisbourg and prepared to attack the town. The efforts of the assailants were slow but vigorous and successful. The fortress was finally surrendered, after a most spirited resistance, the

26th July, upon the most humiliating terms. In this engagement the English had about four hundred men either killed or wounded. Five thousand seven hundred and thirty-seven of the French were made prisoners of war, beside Louisbourg with all its military stores and provisions, as also the Isle Royal, Cape Breton, St. Johns, and their dependencies were placed in the hands of the English. This was felt by France as a very heavy loss, as it very much interrupted her intercourse with Canada, and gave the English great facilities for making larger conquests in the French dominions.

The inhabitants of Cape Breton soon after this victory were removed to France in English ships, but the sailors and soldiers were sent as prisoners of war to England. The joy was great on this occasion, both in New-England and in the mother country, and was solemnly testified by public thanksgivings.

8. The expedition against Ticonderoga consisted of about sixteen thousand men, under the command of General Abercrombie. On the 5th of July the army was embarked on Lake George, and proceeded toward Ticonderoga, where they immediately commenced their operations. A description of the enemy's fort having been given General Abercrombie by some French prisoners, he was deceived as to their situation and strength. He resolved without hesitation to assail the fort, and carry his point by storm. The troops were ordered accordingly. They rushed directly toward the fort, and against the enemy's fire,

with incredible intrepidity. They were cut down by scores and hundreds in every direction; but still they pushed their way, reserving their fire till they might scale a breastwork which had been thrown around the fort. On arriving near it, however, they found insurmountable difficulties in the way. Trees had been felled to a considerable distance in front of the breastwork, with their tops outward, and the branches sharpened to a point. By these the soldiers were retarded in their attempts to scale the fort, and for more than four hours they were dreadfully exposed to a most galling fire from the enemy.

The general, finding it impossible to accomplish his object, now ordered a retreat, and retired to his former camp on the south side of Lake George. In this mistaken assault he lost no less than two thousand of his men, four hundred of whom were provincials.

9. Colonel Broadstreet now proposed to General Abercrombie to make an attempt for the reduction of Fort Frontenac. Accordingly he sent a detachment of about three thousand men, with that brave officer, for this purpose, and they were furnished with eight pieces of cannon and two mortars. With these troops, mostly provincial, Broadstreet marched immediately to Oswego, sailed down Lake Ontario, and in the evening of August 25th landed within a short distance of the fort. In less than two days the English batteries bore so hard upon the fort, that the enemy surrendered at discretion. Sixty can-

non, sixteen mortars, a large number of small arms, military stores, &c, and nine armed vessels, fell into their hands.

10. The next expedition contemplated was against Fort du Quesne. This place was considered the *strong hold* of the French dominions over the western country: to dispossess them of this fortress, therefore, was thought to be an enterprise of no small magnitude. But the success which had crowned the previous expedition, very much encouraged the attempt, and facilitated the undertaking. It was committed to General Forbes. He was joined by Colonel Washington, in September, with a company of Virginia regulars. Before the main army marched, Major Grant was sent, with eight hundred men, to reconnoitre the fort and adjacent country. The French accepted his challenge for an engagement: three hundred of his men were killed, and himself and nineteen other officers were taken prisoners. General Forbes was prevented from reaching Fort du Quesne till near the last of November. His army amounted to eight thousand; but when he arrived at the fort he found nothing for them to do, as the preceding evening the garrison had abandoned it, and proceeded in boats down the Ohio River. Forbes took possession of the fort, erected the British flag, and in honour of Mr. Pitt, before mentioned, he called the place *Pittsburgh*.

11. A treaty of peace was concluded this year by the governors of Pennsylvania and

New-Jersey, Sir William Johnson, and others, with a number of tribes of Indians inhabiting the extensive territory lying between the Apalachian Mountains and the lakes. This was an important event in the affairs of the colonies at this time. The treaty was signed by the representatives of fifteen tribes or nations.

Near the close of this year an attempt was made by the French to engage the Indians on the eastern frontiers in hostilities against the English, but without much effect.

Thus we have seen the colonies, in the course of 1758, succeeding in their efforts to defend their liberties against the encroachments of the French, and their prospects brightening for still greater conquests.

CHAPTER XI.

War with the French—Conquest of Canada.

1. WE now proceed to sketch the events of 1759. The first expedition this year was planned and executed against Ticonderoga; but this was but part of a project which had been laid for the entire conquest of Canada. Hence it was determined to raise three powerful armies, who should enter that province by three different routes at one and the same time, and simultaneously attack the strong holds of the French in that country. The two other places fixed on were Niagara and Quebec.

2. General Amherst, who conducted the suc-

cessful expedition against Louisbourg the last year, now succeeded Abercrombie in the command of the army in North America. He was to march with a division of the army against Ticonderoga, but by various causes was prevented reaching that place till the 22d of July. When he arrived, the lines around that place were left by the enemy, who immediately fled into the fort. Finding the assailants were likely to be too strong for them, they did not make much resistance here, as they soon blew up their magazines, spiked their cannon, and fled to Crown Point; and before Amherst could arrive at this place, they fled again, and retired to Isle Aux Noix, at the northern extremity of Lake Champlain. To this place he was prevented from following them by the advanced season of the year, and for the want of suitable naval forces.

3. The next expedition was to be prosecuted against Niagara. The army under the command of General Prideaux embarked on Lake Ontario, and on the 6th of July landed about three miles from the fort. While making preparations for the siege, this brave general was killed by the bursting of a cohorn. The command devolved on Sir William Johnson, as next in office. A general battle took place, July 24, which gave Niagara and six hundred and seven prisoners of war into the hands of the English. This victory cut off entirely the intercourse of the French between Canada and Louisiana.

4. At the same time the above operations were in progress in Upper Canada, the most important

and daring enterprise was prosecuted against Quebec, by General Wolfe. This place, made almost impregnable by nature, was rendered still more strong by art ; so that every attempt at its reduction had hitherto failed. It stands on the north side of the river St. Lawrence, and is divided into an upper and lower town. A bold and rocky eminence divides the upper from the lower town which lies between this and the river. On the top of this lofty eminence is a plain upon which the upper town is built. East, and below the city, is the river St. Charles, which, emptying into the St. Lawrence, places Quebec on a kind of peninsula. In the St. Charles there were a number of armed vessels and floating batteries, and a strong boom was drawn across its mouth to prevent the approach of others from without. The channel of this river is rough, and its banks are steep and intersected with deep ravines. At a short distance still farther down is the river Montmorency, and between these two rivers, and from one to the other, were intrenched a formidable French army.

5. General Wolfe had now made a number of fruitless attempts to reduce the place, when three of his officers formed the desperate project of ascending one of those steep precipices which lined the banks of the rivers, a height of nearly two hundred feet. They laid the plan before the general, who was then confined by sickness ; he did not hesitate in giving it his cordial approbation, and in a few days he was sufficiently recovered to engage in it himself.

To conceal the real design, the troops were transported nine miles up the river. On the 12th of September, at one o'clock in the morning, a strong detachment was put on board the flat-bottomed boats, which fell silently down with the tide to the intended place of landing, where they arrived an hour before the break of day. Wolfe was first upon the shore, and was immediately followed by the troops, who instantly began, by the aid of the projecting rocks and shrubs, to ascend the precipice. By the break of day the whole of the troops had reached the summit, and were formed under their respective officers.

6. Montcalm, the French commander, would not believe it when he was informed that the English had gained the heights of Abraham, thinking it was merely a stratagem fixed on by the English to induce him to abandon his present position. He was soon, however, convinced of the fact, and proceeded to arrange his forces for battle; they soon advanced rapidly to the contest. The battle was now begun. About fifteen hundred Canadians and Indians, who were most excellent marksmen, poured a destructive fire into the British lines. Montcalm had scattered them into the corn fields and bushes to hide them from the sight of the advancing troops, who reserved their fire till within about forty yards of the French. The English now opened their fire, and the battle soon became general. On both sides it was fought with desperation, and the destruction became immense. Twice General Wolfe was wounded, but refusing to be carried from the field, he

continued to encourage his men, and urge on the dreadful conflict. The third bullet pierced his breast, and he was against his wishes carried to the rear of the line. General Monckton succeeded him in the command, but he was immediately wounded and yielded the command to General Townshend.

7. By this time Montcalm and General Senezergus, the second in command under him, had fallen. The enemy now began to yield to the renewed and pressing attacks of the English. Their army was divided and broken, some fled into Quebec, and others over the river St. Charles. The victory was complete. About one thousand of the French lines fell that day, and as many more were made prisoners; others fled to Point au Tremble, Trois Rivers, and Montreal. The loss of the English was about six hundred.

Five days after this battle the city of Quebec surrendered to the English, and thus the capital of New-France became subject to the crown of Great Britain, and was garrisoned by about five thousand men, under General Murray. At the time of its capture it was supposed to contain ten thousand inhabitants.

8. In the spring of 1760 the French made an ineffectual attempt to regain what they had lost in the above battle. Monsieur de Levi, who succeeded Montcalm in the chief command, sailed from Montreal with an army of more than six thousand men, and six frigates, and arrived at Point au Tremble, within a few miles of the city.

General Murray with an army of three thousand met him on the plains of Abraham near Sillery, April 28th, where a most fierce and bloody encounter ensued. He was defeated with the loss of one thousand men ; the French lost twice that number. Murray, with the remnant of his army, retreated to the city, to which the French laid siege on the very evening the battle closed. A British fleet arrived but a few days after, and the siege was raised.

9. The total subversion of the French power in Canada was now contemplated by General Amherst, and he proceeded, accordingly, to bring the whole British force in America to the accomplishment of this object. Colonel Haviland was detached with an army to Lake George, Crown Point, and Lake Champlain ; General Murray was ordered from Quebec with as many of the garrison there as could be spared, while Amherst with ten thousand regulars and one thousand Indians under Sir W. Johnson, proceeded to meet the above forces for the reduction of Montreal, where they arrived Sept. 6th. This armament was too strong to be encountered by the French, and accordingly without any resistance they surrendered ; and on the 8th, Montreal, Detroit, Michilimackinac, and all the other places under the government of Canada, were surrendered to the British crown.

10. In the meanwhile the colonies of Virginia and South Carolina were suffering repeated hostilities from the Cherokees, a powerful tribe of Indians in the west. But they were soon

compelled to sue for peace, by the chastisements inflicted on them by the troops under Generals Grant and Montgomery.

An armament was ordered out from France, some time during this year, for the aid of Canada. It consisted of one frigate, two large store ships, and nineteen sail of smaller vessels. But to avoid being attacked by a British fleet that had recently sailed up the St. Lawrence, they put into the bay of Chaleurs, on the coast of Acadia.

But the whole fleet was soon after destroyed by Captain Byron, senior officer of the naval force at Louisbourg, who sailed with five ships, and he destroyed two batteries also, and two hundred houses, beside doing other damages to the French settlements in Acadia.

11. Thus the conquest of Canada was achieved completely, and the French power totally annihilated on the continent of North America. But it was a conquest most dearly bought, as the war had continued from the first hostilities no less than six years; thousands of valuable lives had been lost, and the sufferings and distress endured by the inhabitants of the contending colonies impossible to be conceived or described.

The termination of such a war was justly considered the occasion of universal joy and rejoicing among the people, and public thanksgivings were appointed in many places, to ascribe honour and glory unto Him who had interposed for the distressed, and saved them from destruction.

A definite treaty of peace was signed at Paris, Feb. 10th, 1763, and ratified soon after. The territories ceded to the English in this treaty were erected into four distinct and separate governments, by the king of Great Britain, in the October following, which were named as follows :—Quebec, Florida, West Florida, and Granada.

12. But while the colonies were now congratulating themselves with the prospects which peace between France and England had opened before them, hordes of savages were planning farther hostilities, and meditating their destruction. The inhabitants on the frontiers of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia, were alarmed and shocked with the most horrid cruelties perpetrated among them. The Indians continued to advance, and made themselves masters of the distant outposts before the English had time to put themselves in a state of defence. They compelled many garrisons to capitulate on terms which they themselves refused to fulfil, and when they found the whites sufficiently credulous to trust their faithless promises, they fell upon them, plundered, scalped, and murdered them in the coolest blood.

The English forces were soon put in requisition against the tribes which had engaged in these unprovoked cruelties, nor was it long before they were sufficiently punished for their perfidy, and humbled to peace and submission.

CHAPTER XII.

Acts passed by Great Britain to tax the American colonies—Measures taken by the colonies to oppose them.

1. WE are now approaching a most important period in the course of our history. In the preceding chapter we have seen in these colonies one continued scene of bloody conflict, in which were mingled all the horrid cruelties of savage warfare. But the thought of all the battles, and bloodshed, and sufferings with which the people of these colonies had ever been afflicted and scattered heretofore, the thoughts of them all were *tolerable*, because these wars were between themselves and *another* people. And notwithstanding the acts of the government of Great Britain, which they felt so sensibly as unjust and oppressive, yet the colonies in North America had never indulged any other feelings toward the mother country than those of affection and respectful loyalty. "No people," says Dr. Franklin, "were ever known more truly loyal. Scotland has had its rebellions; Ireland has had its rebellions; England its plots against the reigning family; but *America* is free from this reproach."

2. Pownal, who had been governor in South Carolina, and governor and commander in chief of Massachusetts Bay, under the appointment of Great Britain, bears this explicit testimony to the above fact. "I profess," says he, "an affection

for the colonies, because, having lived among their people, in a private as well as public character, I know them. I know that in their private social relations, there is not a more friendly, and in their political one, a more zealously loyal people in all his majesty's dominions. They would sacrifice their dearest interests for the honour of their mother country. I have a right to say this, because experience has given me a practical knowledge, and this impression of them. They have no other idea of this country than as their home; they have no other word by which to express it, and, till of late, it has been constantly expressed by the name of home."

3. How afflicting, then, must those circumstances have been to the people of these colonies, united as they were by so many sacred ties to the country which they had ever delighted to call their *home*,—how exceedingly afflicting must those circumstances have been which led to the disruption of a union so pleasant, and finally to their entire separation from any connection with the mother country.

In 1764, soon after the ratification of peace with France, the intentions of the British government to quarter their troops in this country at the expense of the colonies, became known here, and began to excite alarm. It was proposed to raise a duty on foreign sugars and molasses, and on all stamped papers, legal and mercantile. The question was now discussed in the house of commons, whether they had a right to tax

the American colonies, without their being represented, and decided unanimously in the affirmative. Soon after this resolution, an act was passed in parliament for granting certain duties in the British colonies and plantations in America; and the breaches of this act committed in America, it was decided, should be examined and the penalties affixed, by such courts as were instituted in any part of the country, by the crown of Great Britain, thereby depriving the defendant of a trial by jury.

4. These proceedings on the part of parliament created universal excitement in the colonies. The people saw in them the beginning of a most oppressive system of taxation, and as cruel and unjust as it was oppressive, because the charters granted by the very government which now attempted to impose these taxes, guaranteed to them the right of governing and taxing themselves.

To these measures on the part of Great Britain, the colonies were not backward in manifesting the most determined opposition. The town of Boston, at its annual meeting in May 1764, in giving instructions to their representatives, expressed themselves as follows:—"But what still heightens our apprehensions is, that these unexpected proceedings may be preparatory to new taxations upon us; for if our trade may be taxed, why not our lands? Why not the produce of our lands, and every thing we make use of? This we apprehend annihilates our charter

right to govern and tax ourselves. It strikes at our British privileges, which, as we have never forfeited them, we hold in common with our fellow subjects, who are natives of Britain. If taxes are laid upon us in any shape without our having a legal representation where they are laid, are we not reduced from the character of free subjects to the miserable state of tributary slaves?"

5. Remonstrances were made, and petitions were sent into parliament against these proceedings, but to no purpose. In the beginning of the year 1765, an act was passed for raising a revenue by a general stamp duty throughout the American colonies. It ordained that instruments of writing, such as notes, bonds, deeds, &c, should be null and void, unless they were executed on a certain kind of paper, brought from England, called *stamped paper*, and on which the tax was to be paid to the crown of Great Britain.

This act, however, did not pass without opposition, warm and animated. When the bill was brought into the house of commons, one who had been speaking in its defence concluded with exclaiming in a highly impassioned tone:—"These Americans, our children, planted by our care, nourished by our indulgence, protected by our arms until they are grown to a good degree of strength and opulence; will they now turn their backs upon us, and grudge to contribute their mite to relieve us from the heavy load which overwhelms us?"

6. Immediately another member, Col. Barre, who had been alluded to in the preceding speech, arose, and with an eloquent vehemence replied :—“ *Planted by your care!* No! your oppression planted them in America; they fled from your tyranny to a then uncultivated and inhospitable land, where they were exposed to all the hardships to which human nature is liable; and among others, to the cruelties of a savage foe, the most subtle, and I will take upon me to say, the most terrible that ever inhabited any part of God’s earth. And yet, actuated by principles of true English liberty, they met all these hardships with pleasure, when they compared them with those they suffered in their own country, from the hands of those who should have been their friends.

7. “ *They nourished by your indulgence!* No! They grew by your neglect of them. When you began to care about them, that care was manifested in sending persons to rule over them in one department and another, who were, perhaps, the deputies of the deputies of some members in this house, sent to spy out their liberties, to misrepresent their actions, and to prey upon them; men whose behaviour on many occasions has caused the blood of these sons of liberty to recoil within them; men, promoted to the highest seats of justice, some of whom, to my knowledge, were glad, by going to foreign countries, to escape the vengeance of the laws in their own.

“ *They protected by your arms!* They have

nobly taken arms in your defence, have exerted their valour amidst their constant and laborious industry, for the defence of a country whose frontiers, while drenched in blood, its interior parts have yielded for your enlargement the little savings of their frugality and the fruits of their toil. And *believe me, remember*, I this day told you so, that same spirit which actuated the people at first, will continue with them still."

8. But notwithstanding these admirable and impressive remarks, the bill passed. The act was to take effect the first of November. The colonies were now filled with the most serious alarm, and measures were every where taken against it, and many of the colonial assemblies passed resolutions, declaring it to be a gross violation of the faith and honour which the British government had pledged in the charters granted to the colonies.

A number of resolutions of this kind were introduced into the general assembly of Virginia, by Patrick Henry, at that time a young lawyer, and in the conclusion of an animated debate which they drew forth from the members, this intrepid youth exclaimed, "Cesar had his *Brutus*, Charles I. had his Cromwell, and George III.," [meaning the then king of England, but before he finished the sentence the cry of *treason! treason!* from a number of members in the house, interrupted him, when after a pause he added,] "may profit by *their example*; if this be treason, make the most of it."

9. Massachusetts took early measures for

calling a general meeting of representatives from the different colonies, for the purpose of uniting their counsels in fixing on the best means for averting the calamities with which their general safety was threatened. Accordingly a congress of twenty-eight delegates assembled in New-York, on the 7th of October. They were from Massachusetts, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the Delaware counties, Maryland, and South Carolina. The assemblies of Virginia, North Carolina, and Georgia, were prevented from sending representatives to this congress by their governors.

10. The first thing which this congress did was to draw up a bill of the rights, and grievances of the colonies. They declared them to be possessed of all the rights and liberties of natural born subjects within the kingdom of Great Britain; among the most essential of which are, the privilege of trial by jury, and the power to tax themselves. They complained of the British parliament for imposing certain stamp duties, and other duties in the colonies, by which their liberties had been directly subverted, and the way opened for still greater evils to follow. A petition to the king was agreed on, and also a memorial to each house of parliament; and other measures were recommended to the colonies, by which they attempted to conciliate the good will of the crown, and turn away the grievances which seemed to be designed against them.

11. Various methods were resorted to by the

populace in many places throughout the colonies, to exhibit the indignation and abhorrence which seemed every where to prevail against this obnoxious act. Mobs were collected, houses ransacked, and in some instances destroyed ; persons were burned in effigy ; processions were formed under the pretence of paying funeral honours to liberty, which was supposed to be dead, and minute guns were fired, and the bells tolled the knell of its departure. These proceedings, however, were highly disapproved of by the people generally, and some towns took measures to suppress them.

12. But finally the day arrived when the *stamp act* was to take effect. It seemed to bring with it a cloud which spread over the whole country. All business which required the use of that kind of paper was suspended. Neither bonds, nor deeds, nor notes were either given or received ; the courts of justice were closed, many merchants shut their stores, even marriages were no longer solemnized, and one general death-like stagnation reigned throughout the civil and commercial concerns of the colonies : so deep and determined were the feelings of the people against this opprobrious law.

13. To aid the interests of the colonies, associations were voluntarily formed among the people, which, from the speech of Colonel Barre, took the name of "*Sons of Liberty*," and others were formed, in which females united, each of which had for their object the encouragement of American industry ; and hence they pledged

themselves to forego the use of all the articles of foreign clothing, and the common luxuries of life, rather than to receive them by way of commerce with England. Sheep were now no longer used for food, lest there should not be a sufficient supply of wool without importing it, and other commodities previously received in abundance from the mother country were entirely dispensed with by the people, and packed away as unsaleable goods in the warehouse of the merchant. Very soon these measures began to be felt very extensively by the manufacturers and artificers in England: they were to a considerable extent dependent on the colonies for the sale of their goods; and hence they were not backward in uniting their petitions with those from this country to parliament for a repeal of the oppressive laws.

14. These measures were not without their designed effect. In 1766 a change had taken place in the administration of England, and on the 18th of March the stamp act was repealed. It was but too apparent to the new ministry that one of two courses must be taken, the stamp act must be repealed, or obedience on the part of the colonies must be compelled by the force of arms. But then for fear that there might even seem to be a disposition to bend or compromise on their part, an act was previously passed by parliament, asserting in very strong terms their *right* to bind the colonies in all cases whatsoever. But the import of this act was scarcely observed amidst the all-pervading joy which the repeal of

the other excited among the people in America, and it was celebrated in the colonies with the ringing of bells, fire works, and festivals.

15. The part which that good and ever-to-be-remembered Mr. Pitt took in the house of commons for procuring this repeal, deserves a special notice here. At the meeting of parliament, January 7th, 1766, a motion was moved for an address to the king on the subjects which were then agitating and distracting the councils of the nation. Mr. Pitt rose to express his sentiments, which he did in his own nervous, bold, and most eloquent style. "It is a long time," said he, "Mr. Speaker, since I have attended in parliament. When the resolution was taken in this house to tax America, I was ill in my bed. If I could have endured to have been carried in my bed, so great was the agitation of my mind for the consequences, I would have solicited some kind hand to have laid me down on this floor, to have borne my testimony against it. It is my opinion that the kingdom has no right to lay a tax upon the colonies. At the same time, I assert the authority of this kingdom to be sovereign and supreme in every circumstance of government and legislation whatsoever. The idea of virtual representation is the most contemptible that ever entered into the head of any man; it does not deserve a serious refutation. The commons in America have invariably exercised this constitutional right of giving and receiving their own money; they would have been slaves if they had not enjoyed it; at the same time this king-

dom has ever possessed the power of legislation and commercial control. 'The colonies acknowledge your authority in all things with the sole exception that you shall not take the money out of their pockets without their consent.'

16. A profound silence succeeded this speech for some minutes, when Mr. Grenville arose to reply. After asserting that the tumults in America bordered upon rebellion, and that if the doctrine promulgated that day were confirmed, he feared they would soon lose this name, to take that of revolution; "Great Britain," said he, "protects America; America is therefore bound to yield obedience. If not, tell me when they were emancipated? The seditious spirit of the colonies owes its birth to the faction in this house." To this Mr. Pitt attempted to reply, but was immediately called to order, as the privilege of speaking twice upon the same motion was allowed only in a committee; but the loud and repeated cry of "Go on," "go on," induced him to proceed.

17. "Sir," said Mr. Pitt, addressing the speaker of the house, "a charge is brought against gentlemen of this house for giving birth to sedition in America. The freedom with which they have spoken their sentiments against this unhappy act, is imputed to them as a crime; but the imputation shall not discourage me.—We are told that America is obstinate, America is almost in open rebellion. Sir, I rejoice that America has resisted; three millions of people, so dead to all the feelings of liberty, as voluntarily to submit to

be slaves, would have been fit instruments to make slaves of all the rest. When, said the honourable gentleman, were the colonies emancipated? At what time, say I, in answer, were they made slaves?" And then adverting to the immense profit which the colonies had been to the nation, he proceeded:—"I know the valour of your troops, I know the skill of your officers, I know the force of this country; but in such a case your success would be hazardous. America, if she fell, would fall like the strong man, she would embrace the pillars of the state, and bring down the constitution with her. Is this your boasted peace? not to sheathe the sword in the scabbard, but to sheathe it in the bowels of your countrymen? The Americans have been wronged—they have been driven to madness by injustice. Will you punish them for the madness you have occasioned? No: let this country be the first to resume its prudence and temper; I will pledge myself for the colonies, that on their part, animosity and resentment will cease. Upon the whole, I will beg leave to tell this house in a few words what is my opinion; it is that the stamp act be repealed *absolutely, totally, and immediately.*"

18. This act, as we have stated above, was repealed; and unfeigned and universal joy was the consequence throughout England as well as the colonies. The commercial intercourse between the two countries was immediately revived, and the gratitude of the Americans was testified by votes of thanks passed by the general assem-

blies of Massachusetts and Virginia, to the king, to Mr. Pitt, the duke of Grafton, and others who had used their influence in procuring the repeal of the act which had been the cause of so much distress and alarm to the people of these colonies.

CHAPTER XIII.

Other acts passed to tax the colonies—The colonies refuse to submit to them.

1. IN 1767 other measures for taxing America were adopted. An act was passed by parliament, imposing duties on paper, glass, painters' colours, and teas, imported into the colonies. Mr. Pitt was confined by sickness when this bill was introduced, and it passed without any considerable opposition. Another act, passed at this time, obliged the colonial assemblies to provide quarters for the British soldiers sent into this country, and to furnish them with fire, beds, candles, and other articles, at the expense of the colonies. And for requesting to be exempted from a compliance with this act, for the want of the means, the assembly of New-York was prohibited from passing any act until they should comply with the requisition. Another act, of the same date, was to establish a custom house and a board of commissioners in America.

2. As might be expected, the news of these acts excited the indignation and alarm of the colonies, even more than the stamp act had

done before. The people had not then to learn, that these acts were but a new method of drawing away their money, and that if continued, the destruction of their property, liberty, and happiness would be the ultimate result. Nor did they fail to express their just abhorrence of these oppressive measures to the king and the British parliament, and their fixed determination, by all lawful and consistent means, to oppose their administration.

3. But the petitions and memorials of the colonists, with however much humility and respect they might be presented, were spurned away from the throne with apparent contempt; even their complaints seemed to be considered crimes, and viewed as a just occasion of increasing the burdens by which they had been extorted.

To assist the magistrates in the execution of the laws which were so obnoxious to the colonies, a regular force of troops was requested, and, according to his majesty's order, a man-of-war and transports brought nine hundred of them into Boston for this purpose. The ships anchored with their broadsides toward the town, in readiness to pour death and destruction among the inhabitants, should any resistance be made against the landing of the troops. Seven hundred of them, with loaded muskets and fixed bayonets, landed, and with martial music, and the usual military bustle, marched to the common. This was in October, 1768. The selectmen having refused to provide quarters for them,

they took possession of the state house, and placed two pieces of cannon facing the door for their defence.

4. It is sufficiently evident that, excepting a few individuals, there was no disposition in the British parliament to conciliate the good will of the colonies, or to remove the cause which produced so much alarm and discontent among them. Hence, in February, 1769, they took another step more unjust and cruel, and more exasperating generally to the people, than any that had preceded it. An address was voted to the king, requesting him to give orders to the governor of Massachusetts to take special pains to detect all persons in that province who might be guilty of treason, and transport them to *England for trial*. But this measure only served to increase the feeling in those whom it was designed to chasten, which very soon got beyond the power of the British ministry either to quiet by fair words, or to quell by the force of arms.

5. To the inhabitants of Boston and its vicinity, the sight of the armed soldiers quartered among them was a most disagreeable and irritating spectacle; and opportunities were not wanting for mutual provocations and insults between them. On the 2d of March, 1770, a quarrel took place between one of these soldiers and an inhabitant of the town, which resulted in an affair that made a deep impression on the minds of the colonists, and threw them into a most serious commotion. Three days after the quarrel between the two above named, the sol-

diers, being under arms in King-street, now State-street, were pressed upon by the populace, who had gathered around them, and challenged to fire. One of them, who had received a blow, fired at the person who gave it, and this was immediately followed by a single discharge from six others. Three of the citizens fell dead upon the spot, and five were dangerously wounded. The alarm was instantaneous; the bells rung, and in a few moments thousands of the people had assembled in an adjacent street.

6. The lieutenant governor soon appeared among the assembled multitude, and persuaded them to disperse, which they consented to do, on his promising that the affair should be investigated and settled in the morning to their satisfaction. One of the wounded men died, who was buried, with the three others killed, in one vault. An immense concourse of people attended the funeral, which was conducted with unusual pomp and solemnity. The business of the town was in a great measure suspended; the church bells of Boston, Roxbury, and Charlestown were tolled, and every demonstration given of the feeling which pervaded the whole community.

7. About this time an attempt was made and carried in the English parliament, to procure a repeal of all the laws for raising a revenue by tax in America, except that part of them which imposed a duty on tea. The tax on tea, it was said, was continued in order to maintain the

parliamentary right of taxation, and the tax was suspended on the articles of English manufacture, for the purpose of encouraging trade. But this partial repeal made no change in the views and feelings of the colonies; it was the *principle* against which they contended, and no means could now heal the wound which those hateful laws had inflicted, but an entire and everlasting renunciation of the principle which they involved.

8. In the summer of 1772, the people of Rhode-Island made a daring exhibition of the spirit which now prevailed among them. An armed schooner, called the *Gaspar*, had been stationed at Providence, for the purpose of aiding the board of customs in the execution of the navigation laws. The captain of this schooner had insolently required all packets, navigating the Providence River, on passing him to strike their colours; and a packet, proceeding up to Providence with passengers, was fired at and chased by the *Gaspar* for refusing to do the captain this honour. In the chase the schooner run aground, where she stuck fast. A plan was soon laid in Providence for paying more attention to this petty captain than he had desired. A number of boats were procured, and filled with men, the same night, who proceeded to the *Gaspar*, put her crew on shore, and then set her on fire. A reward of five hundred pounds was offered, and vigorous measures taken to detect the persons concerned in this affair, but to no purpose.

9. A measure was adopted in the fall of this year, by the town of Boston, and afterward by all the other towns throughout the province, which resulted in much good to the colonies.—Committees of correspondence were appointed to state the rights of the colonies, together with the infringements which had been, or which might be made upon them, and to publish the same to the world. Similar committees were appointed in the other provinces, and the correspondence which they had with each other, in different places, was the means of diffusing light and intelligence among the people generally, and by which means they were very much strengthened and encouraged in the prosecution of the means which were adopted for their general safety.

10. The time had now arrived when the British government was determined to test, finally, the laws of taxation. For some time the article of tea had been accumulating on the hands of the East India company in England, which was occasioned by a diminution in the exports to America. They had now about seventeen million of pounds of this useless drug upon their hands, and for which some anxiety was felt, of course, to procure a profitable sale. Hence an act was now passed by parliament, allowing the company to export their tea to America free of all the duties with which it was taxable in England; and as this would enable them to afford it cheaper in America than in Great Britain, it was thought that the colonies would

scarcely hesitate to pay so small a duty, as it was only three pence per pound.

11. On the passage of the above bill, large shipments were immediately made by the East India company of their tea, to Charleston, S. C., Philadelphia, New-York, and Boston, with the greatest confidence of its finding a ready sale in each of these places. In this, however, they misjudged; not a single pound of it was ever sold in either of the colonies, nor one penny ever paid as a duty.

Long before the ships arrived containing the tea, a plan was laid, and circulated throughout the colonies and every where agreed to, which very soon brought matters to a crisis. It was determined in each of the above places, that the tea should not be landed. Accordingly the inhabitants of New-York and Philadelphia sent the ships back to London; those of Charleston took the pains, themselves, to unlade the tea and pack it away safely in some cellars, from which places they refused to have it moved till it was spoiled and good for nothing.

12. The people of Boston made use of every possible expedient to induce the vessels which arrived in that place with the tea to return with it back again, but they failed. The captains were willing to go, but the custom house refused to give them a clearance; nor would the persons to whom the tea had been consigned release them, without a discharge of their cargoes, and beside, the governor refused to furnish the necessary passport for clearing the fort. Finally a secret plan

was formed, while the people were meditating on what measures it were best to adopt, to proceed to the ships and give the tea one final *steeping* in the waters of the dock. Accordingly, in the evening of Dec. 18th, about twenty persons in disguise boarded the ships, and without any tumult, took every chest of tea, to the number of three hundred and forty-two, opened them, and poured their contents into the sea.

13. Intelligence of these proceedings highly incensed the British parliament, and, accordingly, the next spring a suitable punishment was fixed on. As the people of the Massachusetts province were thought to be the most deserving of punishment, the first and heaviest blow was aimed at them. A bill was introduced into parliament called the "Boston port bill," and passed, by which the port of Boston was precluded the privilege of discharging, or landing, or of shipping goods of any kind, as articles of merchandize. By another act the charter of the province was essentially altered, and the appointment of the council, judges, and other officers made to depend on the king of Great Britain, or his agent; and a third authorized and directed the governor to send any person indicted for murder, or any other capital offence, into another colony, and even to Great Britain for trial.

14. But these measures had no effect in humbling the colonists; they rather served to strengthen the bonds by which they were bound together, and to inspire them with fresh zeal and courage in resisting what they considered un-

just encroachments upon their happiness and liberties.

A meeting of the inhabitants was called in Boston on the arrival of the acts above named, when the following resolution was passed:—“That it is the opinion of this town, that, if the other colonies come into a joint resolution to stop all importation from, and exportation to, Great Britain and the West Indies, till the act for blocking up this harbour be repealed, the same will prove the salvation of North America and her liberties; and that the impolicy, injustice, inhumanity, and cruelty of the act exceed our powers of expression. We therefore leave it to the just censure of others, and appeal to God and the world.” Copies of this resolution were transmitted to each of the colonies, immediately after it was passed; and in return letters and addresses were forwarded from every part of the continent, exhorting and encouraging the people of Boston to persevere in the manly defence of their rights, and assuring them of the sympathy and co-operation of their sister colonies in what was now every where considered one common cause.

15. June 1st, 1774, the Boston port act was to take effect. The day was devoutly kept in Virginia and some other places, as a day of fasting, humiliation, and prayer. The Divine blessing was most solemnly implored upon the suffering colonies; and the ministers of religion did not fail to give their people instructions adapted to the times. They painted before them the

dreadful calamities to which they were exposed, and the worse evils that would follow a tame submission of these colonies to the arbitrary measures of their unrelenting oppressors. And to the prayers and instructions of many ministers of the Gospel of that trying age, the people of these United States are now most deeply indebted for the civil and religious liberties which they enjoy.

CHAPTER XIV.

First continental congress—Open hostilities commenced against the colonies—War with England.

1. DURING the session of the Massachusetts general court, in June, 1774, measures had been taken for calling a general meeting of committees from the several colonies, for the purpose of deliberating on the miseries to which the provinces were now reduced, and also to determine on the most appropriate means for the recovery and establishment of their just rights and liberties, and the restoration of union and harmony between Great Britain and the colonies, which was "most ardently desired by all good men."

2. Accordingly, on the 4th September following, deputies met in Philadelphia from eleven different colonies, and the next day organized their meeting, by choosing Payton Randolph president, and Charles Thompson secretary. It was first decided that each colony, represented by more or less delegates in the con,

gress, should be allowed but one vote only. They next drew up and agreed on a bill of rights, recited the various acts of the British parliament by which those rights had been violated, and declared their repeal to be absolutely necessary for the restoration of harmony between England and the colonies. They resolved that all exports and transports to and from Great Britain should cease on the first day of the following December, unless the cause of their grievances were removed.

3. They farther agreed on a loyal address to his majesty, and others also to the people in Canada and the inhabitants of Great Britain. These papers inspired the people of the colonies with great confidence in the wisdom and abilities of their delegates, and the justice of the cause in which they were engaged. They were every where read with kindling emotions of enthusiasm, nor did they fail of producing a sympathy and unanimity of feeling in favour of the suffering colonies, which never forsook the friends of America, even in the darkest hour of her peril. Lord Chatham, speaking of them in the house of lords, expressed himself as follows:—"When your lordships look at the papers transmitted to us from America,—when you consider their decency, firmness, and wisdom, you cannot but respect their cause, and wish to make it your own. For myself, I must declare and avow, that in all my reading and observation,—and it has been my favourite study; I have read *Thucydides*, and have studied and admired the

master spirits of the world,—that for solidity of reasoning, force of sagacity, and wisdom of conclusion, under such complication of circumstances, no nation, or body of men, can stand in preference to the general congress at Philadelphia.”

4. Measures were now taken by General Gage, the governor of Massachusetts, and other enemies of the colonies, to prepare for the crisis which they saw to be approaching. He withdrew the troops from different places where they had been stationed, and encamped them in Boston. Soon after he caused fortifications to be erected on Boston Neck, and repaired and manned those at the entrance of the town. On the 1st of September he sent a company of troops, silently in the night, and took away the powder deposited in the arsenal at Charlestown, and removed it to Fort William. These movements greatly enraged the people in the vicinity; so much so, that a general consultation was thought necessary, and a meeting appointed for that purpose. A delegation met, September 6th, from the several towns in Suffolk, and passed a number of spirited resolutions, expressive of their determined opposition to the acts of parliament, and the means adopted to carry them into effect.

5. An assembly having been ordered by Governor Gage to meet in Salem on the 5th of October, he undertook to counteract it afterward by a proclamation. But the legality of the proclamation being doubted by most of the members, about ninety of them met, and the governor

not appearing, they adjourned to Concord. Here they met, and chose John Hancock president; made some communications to the governor, who warned them to cease from their illegal proceedings. Without regarding his advice, however, they adjourned to meet again in Cambridge. On meeting again, they proceeded to draw up a plan for the immediate defence of the province.

6. In November this congress met again, and resolved to raise twelve thousand men, armed and equipped, in readiness to act on any emergency; and that a fourth of the militia should be enlisted for pay, and stand as minute men; and committees were sent to New-Hampshire, Rhode-Island, and Connecticut, to request these provinces to assist in raising an army of twenty thousand men.

In the meanwhile the more southern provinces were by no means idle. Congresses were assembled, and committees of safety appointed in Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. One general spirit of patriotism and self defence seemed to pervade the country, and animate the people.

7. In January, 1775, Mr. Pitt made one more effort to bring the British parliament to the adoption of some means which might restore harmony and good feeling again between the colonies and the mother country; but the conciliatory bill which he introduced for this purpose was contemptuously rejected, and not even suffered to lay upon the table for an after

consideration. The very next day an act was passed, in despite of reason, and every law of justice and humanity, to restrain the New-England colonies from the privilege of taking fish from the ocean on the banks of Newfoundland.

8. Another congress met in February of this year for the province of Massachusetts; a resolution was passed and published, by which the people were informed of the warlike preparations of the times on the part of Great Britain, and what the friends of the colonies might expect, should they not be in a state of preparation for the storm which was seen gathering. They urged, in the strongest terms, the militia and minute men to use every opportunity, and spare no pains to perfect themselves in military discipline. Measures were also taken for supplying the people with fire arms and bayonets; and thus every precaution was taken for the approaching crisis.

9. General Gage, having learned that a considerable quantity of military stores had been deposited at Concord, a town in Massachusetts, about eighteen miles from Boston, purposed to destroy them. Accordingly, on the 18th of April, a detachment of eight hundred grenadiers, under Lieutenant Colonel Smith and Major Pitcairn, were ordered to Concord, and particular precautions taken to prevent any notice of their approach from preceding them. But by the time the troops had reached Lexington the next morning, the alarm had been spread through the vicinity, and about seventy of the

minute men were assembled on the green near the church in that town, for the purpose of consulting what to do. Major Pitcairn immediately rode up to them, and boisterously cried out, "Disperse, disperse, you rebels; throw down your arms, and disperse." The sturdy farmers not instantly obeying his orders, he rode still nearer, discharged his pistol at them, flourished his sword, and ordered his men to fire. A discharge of arms from the British soldiers followed, a number of the provincials fell, and the others began to disperse. The troops continued to fire after the citizens had left the parade; eight of them were killed, and a number wounded. But a very few scattering shots were returned by the minute men, and not even these till they were fired upon, killed, and wounded, and saw no possible way to escape.

10. The troops next proceeded to Concord. Some measures had been taken here for defence, but on the approach of the British the militia retired beyond the town. The regulars entered the town, destroyed what provisions came in their way, and the military stores. As they were leaving the town, the militia, receiving some reinforcements, pursued them, when they were fired upon, and a skirmish ensued; the regulars were forced to retreat with some loss. When they arrived at Lexington, Lord Piercy joined them with a reinforcement of nine hundred men, which now increased the enemy to one thousand eight hundred. They soon recommenced their march for Boston, but the citi-

zens continued to press upon their rear, and as the alarm of war had now spread through the adjacent towns, their number increased hourly; and by their close firing from behind the thickets, stone walls, and buildings, they kept the British in no small confusion. Before the regulars reached Charlestown that night, where they rested, they had lost two hundred and seventy-three of their men; and they were not a little mortified, in finding that the "*flock of Yankees*," as they called the Americans who came out against them, had lost no more than eighty-eight killed, wounded, and missing.

11. The dreadful drama was now begun. The news of this affair soon spread through the country, and reached the remotest parts of the continent. The provincial congress was in session at this time, and they immediately caused a minute account of the battle at Lexington to be taken and sent to England, together with an address to the inhabitants of Great Britain. In these communications they showed that the British troops were the first aggressors at Lexington, and they most frankly avowed their loyalty to the king, and at the same time expressed their unshaken determination never to submit tamely to the persecution and tyranny of his evil ministry; "*appealing to Heaven*," say they, "*for the justice of our cause, we determine to die or be free.*"

12. The signal of war which had been given at Lexington was immediately answered by the friends of liberty throughout the colonies. The

forts, magazines, and arsenals were seized for the use of the Americans, and an army of twenty thousand men was soon posted in the vicinity of Boston, and to which additions were made every day. In the meantime the project was formed by some bold men in Connecticut of taking by surprise Ticonderoga and Crown Point. Accordingly a company of volunteers from Connecticut and Vermont, under the command of Colonel Allen and Benedict Arnold, marched against these important places, and took them without any difficulty, May 10th.

13. About this time a considerable reinforcement arrived from England at Boston, and from some movements of General Gage, it was apprehended that he designed to penetrate into the country. The provincial congress therefore recommended the council of war to take measures for the immediate fortification of Dorchester Neck and Bunker's Hill. Accordingly, orders were issued for a detachment of one thousand men to proceed to the latter place, under the command of Colonel Prescott; but through mistake they commenced their intrenchments on Breed's Hill, which was contiguous to the one designated. By the break of day, June 17, they had thrown up a redoubt four feet high and eight rods square. As soon as they were discovered, in the morning, they were fired upon by the ships of war and several floating batteries lying in the river near, and also from Copp's Hill, a fortification directly opposite in Boston.

14. But notwithstanding an incessant shower

of bombs and shot, which was now pouring in upon them from a number of directions, the Americans continued their labour, till they had extended their breastwork from the east side of the redoubt toward the river Mystic, to the bottom of the hill.

Soon after twelve o'clock, three thousand regulars, under the command of Major General Howe and Brigadier General Pigot, landed at Moreton's Point, and after forming, they waited for a reinforcement from Boston. At the same time about five hundred were added to the Americans on the hill.

The issue of the approaching battle now hung in dreadful suspense, in the anxious minds of thousands who had covered the house tops, church spires, and all the heights in Boston and vicinity, to witness the horrors of the scene.

The second detachment having arrived, the British troops, in two lines, commenced their march up the hill. They advanced slowly, and frequently halted, to allow sufficient time for the artillery to produce effect, in demolishing the redoubt. At this time orders were given to set fire to Charlestown, and in a few minutes nearly four hundred houses were wrapped in one general blaze. As the British advanced, they commenced their firing at some distance, but the Americans reserved their fire till the enemy were within twelve rods.* They then opened

* A person who was present and engaged in that dreadful conflict, once gave the writer a most thrilling account of every part of this battle. "Reserve your

upon the advancing lines a most destructive fire; they fell in columns; and the dreadful shock brought the ranks with their backs toward the redoubt, and they made down the hill to the place where they landed, and some of them even took refuge in their boats.

15. The officers strove hard to rally their men; they ran after them, addressed and threatened them, till they finally ascended the hill again. The Americans, as before, manifested no haste to throw away their ammunition; they waited till the enemy approached nearer than before, when they poured into their ranks a dreadful fire, and cut them down in heaps; and again they fled down the hill in confusion. But once more they rallied, and renewed the attack. By this time, however, the Americans had expended their powder, and were obliged to retreat. In making their way over Charlestown Neck, they were exposed to a raking fire from the Glasgow man-of-war and two floating batteries, but providentially a few only were killed.

In this action the British had one thousand and fifty-four killed and wounded, among whom was that Major Pitcairn, who wantonly and without provocation fired upon the citizens at Lexington. The Americans had one hundred and thirty-nine killed, and three hundred and fourteen wounded and missing. The news of this battle

fire,—don't throw away a single shot, my boys," was the oft-repeated caution of General Putnam. "Wait till you can see the white of their eyes, and aim directly at their waistbands."

electrified the whole country, and crowned the American forces with the honours of a decided victory.

But the joy which it occasioned was mingled with sorrow. General Joseph Warren, a gallant and distinguished patriot, was found among the slain of that day. His death was deeply and universally lamented. Colonel Gardner of Cambridge, Lieut. Colonel Parker of Chelmsford, and Major Moore, and Major M'Clany, were also among the honoured dead.

16. The second continental congress had already met in Philadelphia; it comprised delegates from twelve colonies, who were now animated with the spirit of freedom, and ready to unite their counsels for the safety and salvation of the people whom they represented. They first agreed on another petition to the king, addresses were prepared also to the people of Great Britain, and Canada, and to the assembly of Jamaica. It was voted to raise and equip an army of twenty thousand men; and they unanimously chose George Washington, then a delegate from Virginia, to be general and commander in chief of all the American forces, and pledged the twelve united colonies, represented in that congress, for the raising of three millions of dollars to defray the expenses of the war.

On the 6th of July the congress agreed to a declaration or manifesto, showing the causes which induced them to take up arms, which it was ordered should be read to the army in orders, and to the people from the pulpit.—

After giving a clear and spirited account of the origin, progress, and conduct of the colonies, and the measures of the British government toward them, they exclaim :—

17. “But why should we enumerate our injuries in detail? By one statute it is declared, that parliament can of right make laws to bind US IN ALL CASES WHATSOEVER. What is to defend us against so enormous, so unlimited a power? Not a single man of those who assume it was chosen by us, or is subject to our control or influence; but, on the contrary, they are all of them exempt from the operation of such laws, and an American revenue, if not diverted from the ostensible purposes for which it is raised, would actually lighten their own burdens, in proportion as it increases ours. We saw the misery to which such despotism would reduce us. We, for ten years, incessantly and ineffectually besieged the throne as suppliants; we reasoned, we remonstrated with parliament in the most mild and decent language.

18. “We are now reduced to the alternative of choosing unconditional submission to the will of irritated ministers, or resistance by force.—The latter is our choice. We have counted the cost of this contest, and find nothing so dreadful as voluntary slavery. Honour, justice, and humanity forbid us tamely to surrender that freedom which we received from our gallant ancestors, and which our innocent posterity have a right to receive from us. We cannot endure the infamy and guilt of resigning succeeding

generations to that wretchedness which inevitably awaits them if we basely entail hereditary bondage upon them.

19. "Our cause is just, our union is perfect, our internal resources are great, and, if necessary, foreign assistance is undoubtedly attainable. We gratefully acknowledge as a signal instance of the Divine favour toward us, that his providence would not permit us to be called into this severe controversy, until we were grown up to our present strength; had been previously exercised in war-like operations, and possessed the means of defending ourselves.

20. "With hearts fortified by these animating reflections, we most solemnly, before God and the world, DECLARE, that exerting the utmost energy of those powers which our beneficent Creator hath graciously bestowed, the arms we have been compelled by our enemies to assume, we will, in defiance of every hazard, with unabating firmness and perseverance, employ for the preservation of our liberties, being with one mind resolved to die freemen, rather than to live slaves."

21. Another resolution worthy of notice which was passed by this congress, recommended, in view of the then impending calamities, the 20th July, to be kept as a day of public humiliation, fasting, and prayer. The day was accordingly observed with great solemnity, and this was the first general fast ever held in one day throughout the colonies. Thus we perceive that the leading characters in that eventful struggle were men

who feared God, and hence we find them committing themselves to his care and protection, in the important concern which then engaged their attention. "With an humble confidence," say they at the close of their declaration, "in the supreme and impartial Judge and Ruler of the universe, we most devoutly implore his Divine goodness to protect us happily through this great conflict, to dispose our adversaries to reconciliation on reasonable terms, and thereby relieve the empire from the calamities of civil war."

22. General Washington set out for Cambridge soon after his appointment, accompanied by General Lee, and a number of other gentlemen. In every place through which he passed, he received the most evident demonstrations of respect and confidence from the citizens. When he arrived at Cambridge, he found an army of about fourteen thousand men, posted in the vicinity of Boston, and forming a line from Roxbury on the right, to the Mystic River on the left, a distance of two miles. His first attention was directed to the introduction of system and discipline into the army, a work which the wisdom and judgment of Washington very soon accomplished, though it was by no means an easy task to perform.

He also supplied the American troops with ammunition, for which an ordnance ship of the British, captured by Captain Manley, contributed very timely assistance.

CHAPTER XV.

The British evacuate Boston—Declaration of Independence.

1. WE have before observed that the Americans found no difficulty in reducing Crown Point and Ticonderoga. In the latter part of this year, 1775, an expedition was fitted out with great spirit against Canada. The charge of this enterprise was committed to Generals Schuyler and Montgomery. On the first of September about one thousand American troops landed at St. John's, the first British post in Canada, lying a little more than one hundred miles from Ticonderoga; but they found it necessary to retreat to the Isle aux Noix. General Schuyler soon after was obliged to retire to Ticonderoga on the account of extreme ill health, but he returned in a few days to St. John's, and opened a battery against it. This important post surrendered soon after, by which thirty-nine pieces of cannon, five-hundred stands of fire arms, and six hundred prisoners fell into the hands of the Americans.

2. Montreal next fell into the power of the provincials, under the command of Montgomery; here he left a few troops, and hastened forward to Quebec. Before his arrival, however, Gen. Washington had planned an attack upon this place in another direction. He sent out Colonel Arnold, with a detachment from his camp before Boston, who proceeded up the Kennebec River,

and forcing their way through that dreary and almost impenetrable wilderness which lies between the settled parts of the state of Maine and the St. Lawrence, they arrived in six weeks on the plains of Canada, and encamped at Point Levi, before Quebec. In this enterprise most incredible hardships were endured, as the soldiers were often under the necessity of carrying their boots and crafts upon their backs for miles up the Kennebec ; many of them also became sickly in passing the swampy grounds, their provisions failed them, and, to support life, they were reduced to the necessity of eating their dogs, clothes, cartouch boxes, and shoes.

3. Montgomery, having now effected a junction with Arnold, proceeded to besiege Quebec, which was continued nearly a month to no purpose. They then made a desperate attempt to scale the walls, but it proved fatal to the brave Montgomery, and with him fell Captain M'Pherson, his aid, and Captain Cheeseman. The attempt was finally abandoned, with the loss of one hundred killed, and three hundred taken prisoners.

Events of importance occurred this year in Virginia. Lord Dunmore, the governor, seized some military stores belonging to the colony, and conveyed them on board a British ship, in James's River. This conduct roused the resentment of the inhabitants, and the intrepid Patrick Henry, placing himself at the head of an armed force in his neighbourhood, marched against the governor, with the determined pur-

pose of procuring the stores, or their value in money. Before he had proceeded far, however, he was met by a messenger who paid him what he demanded, and he and his company returned to their homes.

4. The governor now put himself out of the way, and retired on board the Fowey man-of-war, and issued his proclamation, offering freedom to all those slaves who would leave their masters, and engage in the British service. He also put the colony under martial law, and reduced the town of Norfolk to ashes.

By the close of this year each of the royal governors had retired, and the British government ceased throughout the colonies.

Efficient measures were taken this year by the general congress to raise a navy to be employed in the American service. And in December it was resolved to fit out for sea thirteen ships; five of thirty-two, five of twenty-eight, and three of twenty-four guns, and a committee appointed to carry this resolution into effect.

5. For some time before March, 1776, Gen. Washington had been contemplating an attack on the British forces in Boston. In a council of war which he called for considering this subject, it was determined advisable to obtain possession of the heights of Dorchester, from which he could easily annoy the enemy's shipping in the harbour, as well as their forces in the town, and by these means he hoped also to succeed in bringing on a general engagement. In the night

of the 4th of March a detachment of eight hundred, followed by a working party of twelve hundred more, proceeded silently with suitable tools, and took possession of the heights. They laboured with incredible diligence through the night, and by morning they were securely defended by the works they had thrown up from the firing of the enemy.

6. In the morning the British were utterly astonished at the sight of what they saw upon the heights, and they confessed that there was no safety for their ships in the harbour unless the Americans were driven at once from these intrenchments: without hesitancy, therefore, they determined either to dislodge them or evacuate the town. The latter was immediately chosen, and means adopted to effect it. The British accordingly evacuated Boston, March 17, under the command of Lord William Howe, to the number of ten thousand strong; and the last of them were scarcely out of town when General Washington entered in triumph, and was received with expressions of unfeigned rejoicing by the afflicted inhabitants.

7. In June and July of this year an attempt was made by General Clinton and Sir Peter Parker to destroy the fort on Sullivan's Island, near Charleston, South Carolina. On the morning of the 28th, nine ships of two hundred and fifty guns commenced a violent assault upon the fort, which was garrisoned by four hundred Americans under the command of Capt. Moultrie. On the fort were mounted twenty-six cannon

of eighteen and nine pounders. After a fierce and bloody action of ten hours, the British retired with the loss of two hundred killed and wounded, beside considerable damage which was done to their shipping. The Americans had but ten killed and twenty-two wounded. Among the American troops stationed in this fort, there was a Sergeant Jasper who distinguished himself during this action, and whose heroism it may be proper briefly to notice here.

8. In the heat of the action the flag staff of the fort was shot away, and the flag fell to the bottom of the ditch upon the outside of the fort. As soon as Jasper discovered this accident, he leaped from one of the embrasures, snatched up the flag, and regardless of the shots of the enemy, he placed it upon the rampart, where he held it until another staff was procured. The conduct of all the American soldiers was alike heroic in that engagement, and worthy of grateful remembrance. Some of them while in the agonies of death exhorted their companions not to yield, but to die in defence of liberty. The garrison afterward received the thanks of congress for their gallantry, displayed on that day, and well they deserved more honours than they ever received.

9. The time had now arrived when many in the colonies began to contemplate the probable issue of the contest in which they were engaged. They had taken up arms merely in self defence; they had from the beginning made the sincerest professions of their loyalty, and declared their

readiness to lay down their arms as soon as the cause of their grievances was removed. But the encroachments which had been made upon their liberties by those who should have protected them, and the hostilities which had been committed against them, now began to work a material change in the minds of the people.—Essays on the evils of monarchy, and the blessings of republican institutions, were industriously circulated in newspapers and pamphlets throughout the country.

10. In May, of this year, congress had recommended to all those colonies that had not adopted constitutions, not to delay the establishment of such forms of government for themselves as might best conduce to the safety and happiness of the people. The compliance of the colonies with this recommendation, gave the people generally a good conception of the superior advantages of an elective government, and a desire for independence. Accordingly, on the 8th of June, Richard Henry Lee, one of the delegates from Virginia, made a motion, which was seconded by John Adams, of Massachusetts, for declaring the colonies free and independent. This motion called forth some very interesting debates. In conclusion of Mr. Lee's remarks in its support, he said:—"Why do we longer delay, why deliberate? Let this most happy day give birth to the American republic. Let her arise, not to devastate and to conquer, but to re-establish the reign of peace and of the laws.—The eyes of Europe are fixed upon us; she de-

mands of us a living example of freedom, that may contrast, by the felicity of the citizens, with the ever increasing tyranny which desolates her polluted shores. She invites us to prepare an asylum, where the unhappy may find solace, and the persecuted repose. She entreats us to cultivate a propitious soil, where that generous plant, which first sprung up and grew in England, but is now withered by the poisonous blasts of Scottish tyranny, may revive and flourish, sheltering, under its salubrious and interminable shade, all the unfortunate of the human race."

11. On the 11th of June this motion was discussed again, and a committee appointed to draw up a declaration according to the resolution. This committee consisted of Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman, and Robert R. Livingston. On the memorable 4th of July, this declaration was unanimously adopted, by which these thirteen united colonies dissolved their connection with the British crown, and declared themselves *free and independent states*.

12. "We hold these truths," say they in their declaration, "to be self evident, that all mankind are created equal; and that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these, are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any form of government be-

comes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them may seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness."

13. This able paper then goes on to a brief recital of the repeated injuries which the king of Great Britain had inflicted upon the people of these colonies, and the means which had been used to obtain redress, but without effect. "We, therefore," it proceeds, "the representatives of the United States of America, in general congress assembled, appealing to the supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name, and by the authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, that these united colonies are, and of right ought to be, FREE and INDEPENDENT STATES; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between them and the state of Great Britain is, and of right ought to be, totally dissolved; and that, as free and independent states, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and do all other acts and things which independent states may of right do. And for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honour."

14. The news of the above act of congress

was hailed with great joy throughout the colonies; it was received in nearly every city and hamlet with extraordinary expressions of ecstasy, and it diffused through the army a spirit of enthusiastic devotion to the cause of liberty and independence.

This event marks a new era in our history, and one which is unparalleled in the history of the world. The rise and fall of empires, and fate of all the nations which have ever been known, together with all the convulsions which have agitated the political world, cannot have been more eventful and lasting in their consequences. And what subject can be more interesting, than to contemplate, for a moment, the settlement of these colonies; their poverty and want, their strugglings with the savage foes which surrounded them; their patience under the accumulated weight of oppressions which were heaped upon them; and then their stepping into the field, without arms, to meet a powerful and vindictive foe—and yet, with ten thousand chances against them, to see them rising above their oppressors, free and independent, to take their place among the most powerful nations of the earth.

15. The government they established still lives, an imperishable monument of the wisdom and integrity of those who formed it, an asylum for the oppressed, shedding its blessing upon millions of free and happy people.

Let us who now enjoy the blessings which it imparts, lift our hearts in gratitude to that great

and good Being by whose kind providence they were given, and not forget the toil and bloodshed with which they were bought.

CHAPTER XVI.

Battle on Long Island—White Plains—Trenton—and Princeton.

1. THE attention of General Washington had for some time been directed to New-York, and having every reason to believe that the enemy designed to possess themselves of that important place, he resolved as soon as possible to make it the head quarters of his army. At the same time many people in the counties contiguous to the city, in lending their assistance in that important crisis, showed their willingness to co-operate with the commander-in-chief in all his measures for the promotion of the general safety ; and accordingly one fourth of the militia in the above counties were immediately engaged, and sent to his service.

The American army, now in the neighbourhood of New-York, amounted to seventeen thousand two hundred and twenty-five men ; these were divided, and a part stationed at Brooklyn, Long Island, others in the city, and a few in some other places.

2. In July, General Howe, with a powerful naval force, arrived in the harbour of New-York, and accompanied with an army of twenty-four

thousand men ; and being joined by his brother, Admiral Howe, it was determined to make their first attack on Long Island, and accordingly they landed at Gravesend Bay, to the right of the Narrows, nine miles from the city.

General and Admiral Howe, before they commenced their military operations, proposed to effect a union between the colonies and the government of Great Britain, as they had been empowered as commissioners for this purpose. In making their proposals, however, they were too haughty to address General Washington by the proper title due to his rank, and he consequently declined noticing their communication. They finally addressed the principal magistrates in the colonies, and promised pardons to all such as would abandon the cause of freedom and submit peaceably to the yoke of British tyranny.

3. The Americans, stationed on the island, were posted near Brooklyn, to the number of fifteen thousand, under the command of Major General Sullivan. On the 27th of August they were attacked by the British forces under Sir Henry Clinton, Percy, and Cornwallis, and after a spirited and desperate resistance, they were defeated with the loss of more than a thousand men. The loss of the enemy was about four hundred. During this engagement, General Washington passed over to Brooklyn, where he witnessed with indescribable concern the slaughter of his troops, but it was out of his power to afford them assistance, as the forces of the enemy so far outnumbered his own. On the 30th

he effected their retreat from the island with great prudence and ability.

4. Lord Howe now supposed the Americans were sufficiently chastened for their rebellion, and of course were ready to accept of the overtures which he made to congress. A committee was appointed to meet him on Staten Island according to his request; and as a hostage for their safety, he sent one of his principal officers. But the committee took the hostage with them when they proceeded to the British head quarters, to show that they had more confidence in their cause, than in the enemies who attempted to oppress them. They soon found, however, that the British general was not disposed to receive them in the character of representatives of free and independent states, and of course the conference closed without their coming to any definite conclusion.

5. It now became an object of importance with General Washington to leave New-York, and accordingly, about the middle of September, he retired with his troops to the heights of Harlaem, and the enemy immediately took possession of the city. Soon after, a considerable body of the British troops proceeded to the plains between the two camps, and Washington resolved to attack them. Colonel Knowlton, with a corps of rangers, and Major Leitch with three companies of a Virginia regiment, were ordered to assail them in the rear, while he proceeded as if to attack them in the front. A spirited engagement followed, and the Americans were

successful; they lost about fifty men, and the British one hundred. General Howe next attempted to dislodge Washington from Harlaem, and accordingly he embarked a considerable part of his forces in flat-bottomed boats through Hell-gate* into the sound, and landed them at a place called Frog's Neck. But Washington was apprized of his design, and moved his army to the northward, toward White Plains.

6. He was pursued, and on the 28th of October attacked by the British and Hessians, and a partial action was fought, and about the same number lost on both sides. There were a number of reasons which prevented Washington at this time from entering into a general engagement with the enemy. Considerable numbers of the militia and some of the troops had deserted and left his standard, and many others, from various causes, had become discouraged; and beside, the whole of his army was but as a handful in comparison with the enemies they had to encounter. Hence his plan was to harass and wear out the enemy as much as possible, without coming to any general action, unless success in it was pretty certain. In the meantime, he hoped to succeed in diffusing among his troops such a spirit of persevering ambition as would be of special service to the cause whenever it were necessary to call it into exercise.

7. Finding it impossible to draw Washington into such an engagement as he desired, Howe next resolved to return and reduce fort Wash-

* Or Hurlgate, as it is sometimes called.

ington, where, for the defence of which, three thousand Americans had been garrisoned. It was assailed on the 16th of November; Colonel Magaw and his men made a gallant defence, but they were finally compelled to yield to the superior forces of the enemy. Two days after the British crossed the Hudson, and proceeded to attack Fort Lee, which was directly opposite.—The garrison here determined at first to make what defence they could, but finding the numbers of the enemy so far exceeded their own, they immediately evacuated the fort, under the direction of General Greene, and joined Washington at Newark, N. J., on the south side of the Passaic.

But Washington soon found it necessary to leave Newark: with the British forces in pursuit of him, he retreated successively to Brunswick and to Princeton, till finally he crossed the Delaware into Pennsylvania; and so closely was he followed in this flight, that the rear of the American army was often within sight, and within shot of the van of the other.

8. The circumstances under which this retreat was effected, deserve some notice, as they shed the brightest lustre upon the character of him by whom it was conducted. We have before stated, that a spirit of discouragement and discontent pervaded the American army, and during all this time it had rather been increasing. Two forts had now been lost, and with one about three thousand men. The time had expired for which large proportions of the militia had engaged to serve; and they accordingly, with many of the

troops, wished to be discharged. Bodies of them finally left the army, and retired to their homes ; so that Washington had barely three thousand left.

9. And then, the general distress was heightened by the want of food, blankets, and tents for such as remained ; and stern winter had already set in. But in the midst of these affecting calamities, the patience and fortitude of Washington were the more conspicuous, and excited the wonder and admiration of all around him. He betrayed no symptoms of fear ; and the unyielding firmness and constancy which the army beheld in him, in that dark hour of his country's peril, served more than any other cause, perhaps, to inspire them with persevering confidence and hope of ultimate success.

But Washington fixed on a plan which very soon changed the aspect of affairs. On the night of December 25th, with two thousand four hundred men, he crossed the Delaware in a storm of snow and rain, surprised a body of Hessians stationed at Trenton, and took nine hundred prisoners, without the loss of scarcely half a dozen of his men. This bold achievement put new life into the American troops, and imbued them with a spirit which prepared them for future conquests.

Washington next proceeded to Princeton, and on the 1st of January, 1777, engaged a party of the enemy with success ; more than one hundred of them were killed, and about three hundred more were taken prisoners. He soon after

carried his army into winter quarters at Morristown.

10. We may now turn our attention from the contemplation of these warlike scenes, and notice some of the doings of congress, at the close of this year, 1776. On the 11th of December, congress passed the following resolution:—"Whereas the war in which the United States are engaged with Great Britain, has not only been prolonged, but it is likely to be carried to the greatest extremity; and whereas it becomes all public bodies, as well as private persons, to reverence the providence of God, and look to him as the supreme disposer of all events, and the arbiter of the fate of nations; therefore resolved, that it be recommended to all the United States, as soon as possible, to appoint a day of solemn fasting and humiliation, to implore of almighty God the forgiveness of the many sins prevailing among all ranks, and to beg the continuance and assistance of his providence in the prosecution of this just and necessary war."

11. "The congress do also, in the most earnest manner, recommend to all the members of the United States, and particularly the officers, civil and military, under them, the exercise of repentance and reformation; and farther, require of them the strict observance of the articles of war, and particularly that part of the said articles which forbids profane swearing, and all immorality, of which such officers are desired to take notice."

12. Articles of confederation were adopted this year by congress. By these articles it was agreed, that each state should reserve the right of forming laws for the regulation of its own government, while they were to contribute for the common defence of the whole. No alliances were to be made with any power, or government, nor to send ambassadors, or receive them from any other nation, without the consent of the United States.

No presents were to be received from any foreign king or power, by any who held a commission from the United States; and no titles of nobility were to be conferred by any individual state. Other regulations also were included in these articles, by which the powers and liberties of the several states were defined, and the relation described which each would sustain to the whole.

CHAPTER XVII.

Campaign of 1777.

1. THE general congress took some efficient measures for the support of the American cause this year. They resolved to increase the army by enlisting men to serve for three years, or during the war, and they also made large emissions of money for meeting the expenses. Commissioners were appointed, and sent to the court of France, for the purpose of soliciting from that

nation a loan of money and a supply of arms. This mission was successful. Very soon after a vessel from France arrived in Portsmouth, N. H., with more than eleven thousand stands of arms, and one thousand barrels of powder; and about the same time ten thousand stands of arms arrived in another place.

2. These supplies came most opportunely for the American cause. A lamentable state of destitution of ammunition, as well as food and clothing, had in a number of cases greatly afflicted the American troops. Sometimes whole regiments were without a single blanket or tent in the most inclement part of the season, and they were often under the necessity of marching upon the frozen ground without shoes, and their bare feet were so lacerated and torn, that they marked the roads with their blood.

3. Those who had been made prisoners of war during the past year, were doomed by their unfeeling enemies to endure greater hardships still. They were mostly confined in churches and ships in New-York, and during the severest part of a most rigorous winter they were deprived of fire, and without clothes; and frequently whole days passed when they were not supplied with a mouthful of food, and even when it was brought to them, it was so damaged and loathsome, as to be unfit to be tasted; so that numbers perished with hunger, still more with the disease produced by the food which they ate. And it is said of some of those miserable sufferers, that when they were released

to be exchanged, in attempting to walk from the places of their confinement to the vessels appointed to carry them away, they fell down and died in the streets, so greatly were they reduced by the complicated sufferings which they were compelled to endure.

4. Washington left his winter quarters near the end of May and proceeded to Middlebrook ; by this time his army had been augmented to near ten thousand. The British forces soon after left Brunswick, and General Howe by various movements endeavoured to draw Washington from his plan, and involve him in a general engagement. Not succeeding in his attempts, he next proceeded to Staten Island. From this place he sailed with sixteen thousand troops on the 24th of July ; his design was kept concealed till on the 24th of August he landed at the head of Elk River, and being soon after joined by the troops under Grant and Knyphausen, the whole army, in two columns, marched directly for Philadelphia.

5. During the whole of this time Washington had been watching the movements of the enemy, and suspecting it was their design to take possession of Philadelphia, he had brought nearly the whole of his army and placed them behind Red-Clay Creek, on the road directly between the British camp and the city. On the 11th of September the two forces met, and after an unequal engagement, which continued nearly the whole day, the Americans were compelled to retire, and a retreat was ordered to Chester. In this

battle the Americans lost three hundred killed, and about six hundred were wounded, and more than half of these were made prisoners. The loss of the British was one hundred killed, and four hundred wounded.

6. Two foreign officers fought in this battle, the Marquis de la Fayette, and Count Pulaski, a nobleman from Poland; the former was wounded in the leg while endeavouring to rally some of the Americans, who were turning their backs to the enemy. These valiant men had left their native soil to assist the oppressed in asserting their rights against the tyranny of foreign foes.

As this battle was scarcely considered decisive on either side, movements were made again immediately for another. Accordingly they met at Goshen, September 16th, but a heavy shower of rain separated the advanced parties, who had begun to skirmish. As the powder in the cartridge boxes of the Americans became wet, the whole army was compelled to retire.

7. But we must now leave Washington and his army a few moments, and turn our attention to the north, as a number of events have already taken place there which are worthy of notice. In the fall of 1776 there was a severe engagement between the naval forces of the Americans, under General Arnold, and of the British, under Sir Guy Carleton, on Lake Champlain. The action lasted about an hour, and the enemy, not being able to bring the whole of their force into the engagement, retired. The action was renewed the next day, when the Americans,

having bravely defended themselves against a superior force as long as there appeared to be any possibility of success, run their vessels upon the shore, and set them on fire.

8. The next spring a plan was matured in England, at the instance of General Burgoyne, for the invasion of the northern states, by which it was supposed all intercourse with the colonies would be effectually cut off between New-England and the southern and middle states, and a communication opened for the British between Canada and New-York. By this means it was thought the country would be easily divided and subdued. For the execution of this project, seven thousand choice troops, beside a powerful train of artillery, and several tribes of Indians, were placed under the command of General Burgoyne, and a number of officers of distinguished abilities were selected to aid him in the enterprise. On the first of July he landed, and proceeded immediately to invest Ticonderoga. The American garrison, under the command of Gen. St. Clair, amounted to about three thousand men; at this time they were short of provisions, the only alternative for them therefore was to submit or abandon the fort. They accordingly left it on the 5th: they were closely pursued into Vermont, and from thence to Hudson River. In their march, however, the rear of the army was overtaken and attacked by the British. The action was severe on both sides for awhile, when others of the enemy arriving, the Americans made a rapid retreat.

9. Soon after, these joined General Schuyler at Fort Edward: the whole army retired to Saratoga, thence to Bridgewater, and the British still continuing to pursue them, they retreated on the 14th of August to Van Shaick's Island, a few miles north of Troy.

General Burgoyne with a considerable body of his troops, after he took possession of Ticonderoga, proceeded to Skeensborough, and destroyed a quantity of military stores which had been deposited there. Then he went to Fort Edward; and while he stayed there he sent a large detachment of his troops, with one hundred Indians for the same purpose, to Bennington, Vermont.

10. In this attempt, however, he was totally defeated. Col. Baum, who commanded this detachment, on his arrival near Bennington, learning that the Americans were prepared to give him a warm reception, halted and sent back to Burgoyne for a reinforcement. At this time General Stark, who was on his way to join General Schuyler, hearing of Baum's attempt, proceeded immediately to Bennington, where he united his militia with a company of Green Mountain Boys, and marched on the 16th of August to attack Baum in his intrenchments. A fierce and bloody battle followed: for two hours the contest was dreadful, till finally the enemy took to flight, after the most of them were killed or made prisoners. At this moment the reinforcement from Burgoyne arrived, and the action was renewed; and happily for the

Americans, a company at this juncture arrived from Manchester, under Col. Warner : the battle was continued till sunset, when the British fled with the loss of about seven hundred in killed and wounded ; the Americans lost about one hundred.

11. The news of this decisive victory soon diffused new confidence and encouragement through the United States. The clouds of misfortune which before had seemed to lower upon the destiny of the nation were now dissipated, and the rainbow of promise arched the heavens in their place.

The prospects of the Americans continued to brighten : the garrison at Fort Schuyler under Colonels Gansevoort and Willet, under circumstances the most discouraging, made a successful defence against the powerful forces of St. Leger. Burgoyne, after the defeat which his detachment suffered at Bennington, found himself under the necessity of sending to Fort George for his provisions. After accomplishing this difficult labour, he removed his army and encamped about four miles from the Americans, now commanded by General Gates, who had succeeded Gen. Schuyler. A few days after, the scouting parties of the two armies had a number of skirmishes, which were continued till about the whole of both armies were engaged. A most obstinate and destructive battle ensued ; each party prevailed by turns, till night ended the conflict. In this engagement three hundred and nineteen Americans were killed, and of the British more

than five hundred. The victory was too decisive on the part of the Americans, not to be felt in mortification by their enemies generally.

12. The army of Burgoyne was still distressed for the want of provisions, and discouragements pressed upon them from other quarters. They now made an attempt to retreat to the lakes, but General Gates discovered it, and a sudden and hot engagement ensued. It was more fierce and bloody on both sides than the former. As night approached, the enemy began to give way ; two hundred of them were made prisoners, and night again forced the parties to retire.

13. Burgoyne, now perceiving the danger to which he was exposed, retreated to the heights of Saratoga. Gates, placing a sufficient force on the east bank of the river to keep him from crossing, immediately commenced pursuit. The enemy attempted to escape to Fort George, but they soon found that there was no direction which they could take, which was not too powerfully guarded with strong bodies of militia.—To retreat was impossible, and they had not sufficient provision to last them three days. In this extremity a council of war was called. While they were deliberating, it is said a cannon ball, from one of the American field pieces, passed across the table around which they were sitting.

14. The council unanimously advised a negotiation with the American general, and accordingly on the 17th of October, 1777, the whole British army, to the number of five thousand

seven hundred and fifty-two effective men, was surrendered prisoners of war. This splendid victory was the occasion of great and universal joy throughout the United States. It was an event scarcely anticipated by the most sanguine friends of freedom, and as little feared by its enemies. In the good feelings which it inspired in the victors, all thoughts of revenge for the injuries they had suffered were forgotten, and no means were neglected for promoting the comfort and happiness of the vanquished, so far as this could be done consistently with the circumstances with which they were surrounded.

15. Let us now return to the army at Germantown, under Washington, between whom and the main body of the enemy stationed at this place, a desperate battle was fought, October 4. The attack was made by the Americans, and the enemy, unable to sustain it, fled in great confusion. Six of their companies, while retreating, made their way into a large stone house, where they successfully defended themselves without suffering any thing from the repeated efforts of the Americans to demolish it. Twelve hundred were lost in this action by the Americans, and the enemy less than half that number.

16. The British soon after marched against the forces left on the river Delaware below Philadelphia. On the 22d of October, twelve hundred Hessians, under Count Donop, assaulted the fortifications at Red Bank, but it was unsuccessful. He next attacked Fort Mifflin, on Mud Island. The garrison sustained the assault with

great spirit and bravery for six days, and they then left the fort.

17. General Washington now concluded to withdraw his army to winter quarters, and for this purpose he selected a place in the woods on the Schuylkill River, fifteen miles above Philadelphia, called Valley Forge. The British took up winter quarters in the city of Philadelphia. The American troops were doomed this winter, as before, to suffer the horrors of starvation. A general destitution of food prevailed through the country; the bills of credit issued by order of congress had fallen to one fourth of their original value. And beside, great numbers of the army were sick and destitute of clothing; they had no blankets to cover them at night, and their feet by day were not defended by shoes from the frost and snow. Such were the calamities which those endured by whose blood the liberties and blessings were purchased which we now enjoy.

18. A resolution was passed by congress this year, for importing twenty thousand copies of the Bible, that thus the people might be supplied with the word of God. And according to another resolution of congress, the 18th of December was observed throughout the United States as a day of public thanksgiving and praise. Thus we have repeatedly seen what a sincere regard that venerable body was pleased to manifest for the institutions of religion, and how frequently they embraced opportunities for testifying God's gracious protection and blessing.

CHAPTER XVIII.

Campaign of 1778 and 1779.

1. THE signal events of the past year raised the character and honour of the American cause in almost every part of Europe. On the 6th of February, Louis XVI., king of France, entered into treaties of commerce and amity, and of alliance with the United States, on terms of perfect equality. Among many members of the British parliament, however, the success of the American arms was viewed with very different feelings; they were chagrined, disappointed, and humbled. They heard the news of the general's total *defeat*, whom they had sent over to subdue and *conquer* the continent.

2. The British ministry were now ready to repeal the offensive laws, and an act was passed by parliament, promising that they would not, in future, attempt to tax the colonies; and commissioners were appointed to communicate with congress for the purpose of effecting a reconciliation. They arrived in June, and sent their instructions in to congress. But this body had before resolved not to receive any overtures of peace from any source, till the independence of the states was explicitly acknowledged. In this attempt, therefore, the commissioners failed. They next tried the effect of an offer to bribe a member of congress. To Joseph Reed an offer was made of ten thousand pounds sterling, in case he would use his efforts to bring about a union by

any means. "I am not worth purchasing," replied this worthy man, "but such as I am, the king of Great Britain is not rich enough to do it."

3. On receiving the intelligence of the alliance which France had made with the United States, Great Britain declared war against that nation ; and it was ordered that the British forces should immediately evacuate Philadelphia, and take possession of New-York ; and for this place they commenced their march on June the 18th.—General Washington having been made acquainted with their design, prepared to follow and attack them. They were overtaken in Monmouth, N. J., and a sharp conflict ensued. The battle was continued till dark, and Washington and his men reposed in the field upon their arms, intending to renew the attack in the morning ; but when day light appeared, the British general had fled with his army for New-York. The day on which this battle was fought was excessively hot, and the suffering of the poor soldiers through the heat was immense ; the tongues of many were so swollen that they could not retain them within the mouth, and about sixty of the British army died without a wound, from this cause alone. Their loss in killed and wounded amounted to three hundred and fifty-eight ; one hundred were taken prisoners, and one thousand deserted during their march. The loss of the Americans was sixty men killed, and one hundred and sixty wounded.

4. On the first of July a French fleet arrived at Newport, under the command of Count D'Es-

taing, with four thousand French troops. Rhode Island had been in possession of the British since 1776, and a combined attack upon the enemy at this place was now determined upon. The British army at Newport amounted to about six thousand men, and was commanded by Sir R. Pigot; the American army under General Sullivan was posted in the vicinity of Providence, and amounted to ten thousand. On the 9th of August General Sullivan proceeded to the north end of Rhode Island,* and prepared for the contemplated engagement. In the meanwhile Gen. Howe, having received information of the intended expedition, appeared with his fleet in sight of Rhode Island, soon after the French fleet had entered the harbour of Newport.

5. The French commander, instead of co-operating with the Americans as he agreed to, sailed out of the harbour immediately, in order to attack the English fleet; but while they were preparing for battle a severe storm arose and scattered them apart, and both fleets finally made back for the ports from which they had sailed: D'Estaing to Newport, and Howe for New-York. On the arrival of the French fleet again, the Americans congratulated themselves on the prospect of a speedy conquest, and they were greatly afflicted when they found the French commander utterly refused to tarry for an attack upon the enemy, but immediately sailed for Boston.

6. General Sullivan, finding himself deserted

* An island belonging to the state of this name.

by the allies, upon whose aid so much dependence had been placed, now concluded to raise the siege. He was immediately pursued by the enemy and attacked. The Americans resisted with great bravery; they lost two hundred and eleven of their men, while the British lost two hundred and sixty. The next day Sullivan was informed of an expected reinforcement to the enemy's lines, and in the following night he conducted the American army safely over the main land. They had scarcely effected their retreat when four thousand men were added to the British forces.

7. About this time an attempt was made by the enemy to reduce the state of Georgia. Two bodies of armed men proceeded from East Florida, one to Savannah, and the other to Fort Sunbury. When the enemy arrived within a short distance from the latter place, they sent a summons to the fort to surrender, but they did not comply with the pithy answer which Colonel M'Intosh returned to this message, which was, "Come and take it." The other party were frustrated also in their attempts upon Savannah; they were met by a company of militia, with whom they had frequent skirmishes. They finally concluded to return, and on their way they burned the church and almost every dwelling house at Medway; they also destroyed all the grain which they found in the way, and carried off the cattle and valuable goods belonging to the people.

8. It would fill a volume to describe the depredations, like the above, which were com-

mitted in many places during this year, by the British soldiers, upon the unoffending inhabitants of the states. And in the perpetration of many shocking barbarities, the British were often aided by the tories, such of the citizens as favoured the cause of Great Britain, and opposed a separation of the colonies from that government. They often made sudden and unexpected assaults upon peaceful and quiet neighbourhoods of people, destroyed their cattle and fields of grain, consumed their dwellings, and took possession of their goods.

9. Wyoming, in Pennsylvania, was attacked in this way. The men were inhumanly butchered, and scores were left widows and orphans, without houses, or homes, or food. In Fair Haven, New-Bedford, Martha's Vineyard, similar spoliations were committed.

Cornwallis, hearing that Colonel Baylor with his regiment had crossed the Hackinsack, on the 27th of September, and taken quarters at Tappan, sent a party under General Gray to cut them off. They were discovered while asleep in a barn. Gray directed his soldiers to kill them with their bayonets, and afford them no quarter, which command was obeyed with the most ferocious and unrelenting cruelty. Sixty-seven out of one hundred and four privates were killed, wounded, and taken. Many were stabbed repeatedly, as long as any sign of life remained, even when the unhappy sufferers supplicated for pity in cries which might have melted hearts of adamant.

10. A successful expedition was planned and executed in November of this year, against Savannah, the capital of the state of Georgia. This enterprise was conducted by Col. Campbell, with about two thousand troops. On their approach to Savannah they were opposed by the American commander at that place, General Howe, with an army of only six or seven hundred men, till resistance became vain. More than one hundred Americans were killed, thirty eight officers, and four hundred and fifteen privates fell into the hands of the British, together with the capitol and the military stores which it contained.

11. While the above siege was pending, an event occurred, which was conducted by one of the Georgia line, of so extraordinary a character that it may be proper to narrate it briefly here. About twenty-five miles from Savannah, on the Ogeeche River, there was posted a company of one hundred British troops, under the command of a Captain French. Five armed vessels lay also at the same place, the largest of which carried fourteen guns, and had on board forty-one men. The bold project of taking these enemies by surprise was formed by Colonel John White. He accordingly took with him five men for this purpose ; Colonel Etholm, three privates, and his own servant. On the night of September 30th, they kindled a number of fires in such a form as to represent a large camp not far from the enemy's, and when Colonel White proceeded to summon them to surrender, his other

men were riding about, and in a loud voice giving various commands as if to a large army gathered in the vicinity. The stratagem prevailed: the British commander, not doubting but a superior force were just ready to attack him and cut his army to pieces, surrendered his troops together with the crews and vessels into the hands of Colonel White.

12. But White had now, if possible, a still more difficult part to perform: this was to carry on the deception, and secure the prisoners. So he pretended that his troops were exceedingly exasperated against the British, and were so earnest to satisfy their rage against their enemies, that it would be extremely unsafe for the two parties to be brought in contact; and hence he proposed that three *guides* merely should accompany them to a place of safety. To this humane proposal French very gratefully acceded; nor were his eyes opened to the deception till he had been conducted to an American fort, a distance of twenty-five miles.

13. During the year of 1779 no very important campaign was executed either by America or Great Britain. To conquer America was now pretty generally believed to be impossible, even by her bitterest enemies. Hence, in their plans, but little else seems to have been contemplated beside harassing the people, and plundering their property.

Accordingly, an expedition was fitted out from New-York against Virginia, consisting of a naval and land force, under the command of

Sir G. Collier and General Mathews. They took possession of Portsmouth and of Norfolk, destroyed the vessels, houses, naval stores, and a large magazine of provisions at Suffolk; and after committing other depredations in various places, they returned to New-York.

14. Another excursion of this kind was undertaken by Governor Tryon against the southern part of Connecticut, with two thousand six hundred land forces, and accompanied with Sir G. Collier with a number of armed vessels. On the morning of the 5th of July, the fleet, which amounted to forty sail, anchored off West Haven, and a detachment of one thousand troops immediately landed at this place. They were checked at first in their march by a few of the citizens; but as there was no armed force stationed at this place, they proceeded to ravage and plunder the town indiscriminately. At the same time Governor Tryon landed with another thousand troops in East Haven. These two detachments soon after effected a junction, and proceeded in their work of destroying the houses and property that fell in their way.

15. The following are a few items from the accounts which have been preserved of what they did. In New-Haven, an aged man, who had a natural defect in his speech, had his tongue cut out. At Fairfield, the dwelling houses were entered, and the desks, chests, &c, of the inhabitants were opened and plundered of their contents. And in this town no less than eighty-five dwelling houses, two churches,

a handsome court house, fifteen shops, fifteen stores, fifty-five barns, and several school houses, were burned. At Norwalk, they burned eighty dwelling houses, two churches, eighty-seven barns, seventeen shops, four mills, and five vessels; and the property of the citizens in other places shared a similar fate.

16. But an opportunity was afforded the Americans of returning vengeance for these atrocities, had they been disposed to do so, before the perpetrators left the region where they had been committed. A fortress on the North River, called Stony Point, had been wrested from the Americans, and strongly fortified by a British garrison of six hundred men, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Johnson, and every necessary preparation had been made for its defence. A detachment was committed to General Wayne for its reduction. About noon on July 15th he commenced his march, through swamps and morasses, and over mountains, and at eight o'clock in the evening they arrived within about a mile of the fort; when they halted, and prepared for the assault.

17. The men were formed into two columns, and ordered to march with unloaded muskets and fixed bayonets. They arrived under the walls of the fort about twelve at night. And now, under a tremendous fire of musketry and grape shot from the cannon of the fort, they had to make their way over a deep morass, overflowed at this time too with the tide. But the assailants rushed forward, scaled the walls, and

took possession of the fort. Not a blow was struck after the British surrendered. The killed and wounded of the Americans amounted to ninety-eight; the killed of the garrison to sixty-three. Five hundred and forty-three prisoners, and a considerable quantity of military stores, fell into the hands of the Americans, beside two flags, two standards, and fifteen pieces of ordnance.

18. Many tribes of Indians at the south and west had been hired by the British government to engage with them in their war with the Americans; and they had accordingly invaded a number of places, spreading death and devastation every where they went. Hence, in August of this year, an expedition was ordered to proceed against them.

General Sullivan, at the head of more than four thousand men, marched into their country, and attacked them in the works which they had prepared for their defence. Their resistance was savage and warlike, till finally they gave way, and fled into the woods. The conquerors then laid waste their country, as they had done Wyoming; forty villages were destroyed, beside fruit trees and grain; a work of destruction which they demerited, perhaps, and which was certainly necessary for the future security of the whites.

19. A number of other expeditions were executed against the Indians this year, and generally with success. A most severe and bloody naval battle was fought in September, on the

coast of Scotland, between the *Bon Homme Richard*, John Paul Jones, commander, and the *Serapis*, a British frigate; the former carrying forty guns, and the latter forty-four. Jones was a Scotchman by birth; but by the American congress had received a captain's commission in the United States' navy, and a squadron committed to his charge, fitted out of one of the French ports. When the action had continued about one hour, the vessels were driven in contact, and Jones immediately lashed them together.

20. The work of death now became dreadful beyond description. Ten or twelve times the *Serapis* was on fire, and frequently both frigates were in a blaze at the same time. Finally, one of Jones's squadron came to his assistance, and the enemy surrendered. At this time the *Bon Homme Richard* was so shattered, that she was sinking; and the victorious crew hastened on board the *Serapis* to save their lives. Another of Jones's squadron engaged, and conquered the *Countess of Scarborough* about the same time.

21. At the close of this campaign, the army at the north retired for winter quarters to a place near Morristown, N. J., and another near West Point. As before, the American troops endured a scene of sufferings and hardships this winter, almost incredible in the annals of war. Often without less than half their allowance of food, and once with none at all, and a miserable supply of clothing, might

have produced any other feelings than those of the patriotism and unwavering affection, which many of these soldiers manifested for the cause in which they were engaged.

CHAPTER XIX.

Campaign of 1780.

1. TOWARD the close of the last year, an expedition had been planned and undertaken by Sir H. Clinton, against Charleston, S. C. He embarked with a force of between seven and eight thousand men, and after encountering a severe gale, appeared before this place in February. The assembly of the state was then in session, and for the defence of the capital, in that emergency, they delegated to Governor Rutledge and his council, the power to do every thing necessary for the public good, except taking away the life of any citizen. The call which he made on the citizens to rally to the defence of their capital was not very promptly obeyed.

2. Gen. Lincoln, who commanded the American forces at the south, was urged by the inhabitants of Charleston to stay there, and with the army under his command, which now amounted to seven thousand, to defend the place. By the first of April, the number of the enemy amounted to as many as nine thousand. The siege was now commenced by the erection of works but a short distance from the city. The

British fleet soon after gained entire control of the harbour, and a body of Americans were surprised and taken at Monk's Corner. The batteries of the enemy kept up a continual fire upon the besieged, till they found themselves unable to resist them to any good purpose.

3. An offer to capitulate was now agreed upon, but General Clinton refused to accept it; the enemy then made other proposals, but these were rejected by General Lincoln, whereupon the siege was renewed with increased severity. But the farther defence of the place was found to be useless, and on the request of a number of the inhabitants, terms of capitulation were offered again by General Lincoln, and which being accepted, the whole of the American force, amounting to five thousand men, together with the city and its munitions of war, fell into the hands of the British.

4. After the surrender of Charleston, General Clinton made three detachments from his army, and posted them in different parts of the state, for the purpose of frightening the inhabitants into submission again to the British crown. A party of two thousand men were directed toward North Carolina, to repel some of the militia who were marching to the relief of Charleston. Colonel Buford, with four hundred men, was most cruelly assaulted near the borders of North Carolina, by a superior force of cavalry and light infantry, and his men inhumanly cut to pieces after they had surrendered. One hundred and thirteen were killed on the spot, and

one hundred and fifty so shockingly wounded, as to be incapable of being removed from the field.

5. These cruelties but disaffected many against the cause of Great Britain, who otherwise, perhaps, would scarcely have attempted any resistance to her encroachments. Hence, like many of their brethren at the north, they determined *to die or be free*. Parties were formed in many places, and a resistance made against the forces of the enemy, which, in a number of instances, was crowned with encouraging success.

Gen. Lincoln having been superseded, General Gates now marched to the relief of the south, with an army of four thousand men. He soon found the enemy ready to meet him. Lord Cornwallis took charge of two thousand troops, who had been stationed at Camden, and hastened to attack the Americans in their camp at Clermont. The Americans at the same time had commenced their march toward Camden. Some of the advance parties of both armies met in the night, and in several skirmishes which took place the Americans were defeated, and this circumstance, probably, served as much as any thing the next day to turn the battle against them entirely.

6. On the morning of August 16th, a general action ensued. At the first attack, the Virginia militia disgracefully threw down their arms and fled from the field, and others soon after followed. But the continental troops, though few in number, and forsaken by their comrades, main-

tained the ground against the superior number of their foes, with unyielding valour and firmness, till finally they were overpowered and compelled to flee. The Americans lost in this battle between six and seven hundred killed, and more than one thousand three hundred wounded and taken prisoners. The loss of the British in killed did not exceed four hundred.

7. A number of other engagements took place about this time, in which, however, nothing was gained to the cause of freedom, till the battle at Broad River. General Sumpter, a brave and successful officer in the American service, with a small body of volunteers, was attacked at this place, by a company of infantry and dragoons, under Major Wemys. But the enemy was repulsed, and their commander taken prisoner. A few days afterward he was attacked again at Blackstocks, by a party of one hundred and fifty of the enemy, but without success, as the British were forced to retreat with considerable loss.

8. In June an attempt was made upon New-Jersey. Five thousand men, under the command of General Knyphausen, landed at Elizabethtown, and proceeded to Springfield. In their way they burned about thirteen houses and one church. As they drew near the town they were opposed by a few troops and militia under Colonel Drayton and General Maxwell, when they halted, and commenced a retrograde march to Elizabethtown. In the meantime they were joined by a reinforcement of troops from Charleston, and the whole

body under General Clinton marched the second time toward Springfield. They were met and opposed by General Greene and Colonel Angel with the American forces under their command. A severe action was fought, and the Americans were compelled to retire, having lost about eighteen men killed, but the loss of the British was supposed to be considerably more.

9. The army at the north, which, as has been stated before, was posted at Morristown, and West Point, did little more this year than to watch the movements of the enemy stationed at New-York, and afford the inhabitants defence against their depredations. But during this time of their inactivity, distress and poverty prevailed to an alarming extent among them. The cold, during the winter, was more severe than it ever had been known before, and Washington often had to combat the necessity which seemed to urge the propriety of breaking up the encampment.

10. And calamities also prevailed through the country, from the depreciation of the paper currency, an evil which congress had not anticipated, and one which it now had no means to resist. Yet in the midst of the general gloom which seemed to cover the nation, there appeared no disposition on the part of congress or any of the state governments to yield the contest; one spirit of union and perseverance seemed to lift them above fear, and inspire them with a courage and resolution which assured the most skeptical of their final success.

11. We have had occasion for noticing a number of times in the course of this history the bravery and valour of Col. Benedict Arnold, whose devotion to the cause of liberty by this time had gained for him no small degree of affectionate regard among the American people; but we now have to present him in a different point of view. He was appointed to the command of Philadelphia when the British evacuated that city in 1778. To clear himself from debts which he had extravagantly contracted, he brought a number of large claims against the American government, but they were partially rejected. He was finally accused, tried, and condemned by a court martial for extortion and abuse of the public funds.

12. His pride was now wounded, and he determined on revenge. He solicited and obtained the command of West Point, the most important post in the possession of the whole American forces. To gratify the dastardly and wicked principle which had now taken possession of his heart, he took measures for delivering this fort into the hands of the enemy. Accordingly a correspondence with Sir H. Clinton was opened, and Major Andre, an accomplished young man in the British army, was sent in a sloop of war up the North River, as near as possible to the fort, for the purpose of holding an interview with Arnold, and arranging the plan for taking the fort.

13. But before this plan was completely arranged, the sloop which brought Andre was

compelled to move down the river, and he was under the necessity of returning to New-York by land. For this purpose Arnold gave him a passport, and having exchanged his military dress for a quaker's coat, he set off under the assumed name of Anderson. He passed all the guards and outposts without exciting suspicion; but on his arrival at Tarrytown, within thirty miles of New-York, he was met by three soldiers, and not supposing that they were Americans, he frankly declared himself a British officer.

14. On discovering his mistake, he offered them a valuable watch, and a considerable quantity of gold which he had in his possession, if they would release him. But these worthy men rejected the bribes which he offered, in disdain, and immediately conducted him to their commanding officer, Colonel Jameson. In the meantime Arnold obtaining intelligence of his capture, immediately escaped on board the sloop of war and fled to New-York, where he received as the reward of his disgraceful treachery the sum of ten thousand pounds, and the rank of brigadier general in the British army.

15. Just at this time Washington happened to arrive at West Point, while on his way from Connecticut to head quarters. He immediately took measures for insuring the safety of the fort, and appointed a board to investigate and decide on the case of Major Andre. He appeared before the board, and ingenuously confessed every thing relating to himself, whereupon

they decided that according to the laws and usages of nations he ought to suffer death. The sentence was accordingly executed on the 2d of October.

16. At the close of this year the northern army retired to the winter quarters which they had occupied before, and where they again endured privations and distresses, at the bare thought of which every true American must feel indignant; and mutiny now crowned the calamities that had gone before. The whole line of Pennsylvania troops stationed at Morristown, to the number of thirteen hundred, on the night of the first of January, 1781, paraded, under arms, and avowed their intention of marching to Philadelphia, and demanding of congress a redress of their grievances. They complained that in addition to the poverty and want which they had suffered in common with the others, they were retained in service longer than the time for which they enlisted, and evinced their determination not to be put off from the execution of the plan which they had formed.

17. After electing temporary officers, they marched off in a body toward Princeton. When they had arrived at this place, three emissaries from Sir H. Clinton met them, and made liberal offers to induce them to forsake the service of congress; but the offers were refused with indignity, and those who made them seized and confined as spies.

The complaints of these sufferers were founded in justice, and accordingly, as soon as even a

part of their demands was granted, they very willingly returned to their duty. This mutiny, and another which broke out in the Jersey line, aroused the attention of the nation, and efficient measures were immediately taken by congress to afford a better supply for the wants of such as had so faithfully toiled and suffered in the defence of their country.

18. A constitution was formed and adopted in the state of Massachusetts this year, to which was prefixed a bill of rights, by which slavery was abolished throughout the state. The first article of this bill declares that "all men are born free and equal." The general assembly of Pennsylvania, also passed an act about the same time, declaring, that no persons, whether negroes or mulattoes, who might be born in that state, after the passing of that act, should be deemed and considered as servants for life, or slaves; and all servitude for life, or slavery of children, in consequence of the slavery of their mothers, in the case of all children born within the state, was extinguished and abolished for ever.

CHAPTER XX.

Campaign of 1781—and close of the war.

1. THE southern army, which consisted of about two thousand men under General Greene, was crowned with considerable success in the beginning of this year, in the defence of the

posts assigned them. An invasion of North Carolina was contemplated by Cornwallis, and to meet the encroachments of the enemy in that quarter, General Greene divided the army, and directed General Morgan with a considerable detachment to the western extremity of South Carolina. Lord Cornwallis was now nearly ready to commence the invasion of North Carolina, and fearing he might be followed by Greene, in case he should attempt this, he ordered Col. Tarleton, with about one thousand one hundred men, "to push him to the utmost."

2. Morgan at first hesitated whether it were prudent to engage a superior force, when there was so little prospect of victory, and hence he began on the first attack of the enemy to retreat. But he soon halted at the Cowpens, near Pacolet River, and on the 17th of January engaged his pursuers with complete success. He arranged his men in two lines, and ordered the militia posted in front to yield, and give way soon after the first assault of the British, for the purpose of drawing the enemy's forces into confusion in the pursuit. They were led on to the attack by Tarleton himself, and with a loud shout they commenced an incessant fire of musketry. The militia withstood the charge with firmness for a few moments, and then retreated, as they were ordered previously by Morgan. The enemy immediately supposed the fate of the day decided, and commenced the pursuit in great disorder.

3. At this moment the American infantry, facing about, poured upon the enemy a most

deadly fire: this increased their confusion, till they were so closely charged and pressed with the bayonet, that in a few moments one hundred of the enemy were killed, and five hundred made prisoners. The victory was most signal and glorious, as much so, perhaps, as any achieved during the revolutionary war. No less than eight hundred muskets, two field pieces, two standards, thirty-five baggage wagons, and one hundred horses, fell into the hands of the victors. And yet Morgan's force scarcely amounted to five hundred, and these chiefly militia, while Tarleton's army more than doubled this number, and it was selected from the very best of the British troops.

4. The event of the above engagement extremely surprised and mortified Cornwallis, and he immediately resolved to pursue Morgan, and retake the prisoners. General Greene suspecting this attempt on the part of the enemy, hastened with his army to join Morgan, which he did, after a most distressing march, at Guilford court house. In this retreat the Americans endured incredible hardships, and with a fortitude truly astonishing. They were often destitute of provisions, and many of them, without shoes, marked every step they took upon the frozen ground with their blood. After pursuing Greene with unwearied diligence for some weeks, Cornwallis turned and marched to Hillsborough, where he erected the royal standard, and invited the loyalists to join him.

5. The army of General Greene had now

been augmented to more than four thousand men, of which, however, more than one half were militia: he concluded to offer a battle with the enemy. The forces met at Guilford court house on the 8th of March. This engagement finally turned in favour of the British, but the loss on both sides was about equal.

General Greene, having made a detachment of his army under General Lee, on another expedition, the next April marched against Lord Rawdon, who was posted with nine hundred men at Camden. On the 25th the armies met, and in the first of the engagement victory seemed to turn in favour of the Americans, but finally, through the cowardice of one of the regiments, General Greene found it necessary to retreat. The Americans lost, in this battle, two hundred and sixty-eight, in killed, wounded, and missing; that of the British was about the same.

6. This defeat was soon after counterbalanced by the surrender of Orangeburg, with seventy British militia, and twelve regulars, into the hands of the brave General Sumpter; also by the capture of Fort Mott and one hundred and sixty-five men; and Fort Ganby was taken about the same time by General Lee, with the garrison, consisting of three hundred and fifty-two men. And immediately after this victory, Colonel Lee marched to Augusta, and joined General Pickens in an attempt to reduce Fort Cornwallis. The garrison, consisting of about three hundred men, surrendered on honourable terms of capitulation.

7. The next battle of consequence, and the one which nearly finished the war in South Carolina, was fought on September 8th, at the Eutaw Springs. The British amounted to about two thousand men, under Colonel Stewart, and the Americans had about the same number.— This engagement was as desperate and bloody, perhaps, as any which had occurred during the war. The British lost, including prisoners, not less than one thousand one hundred men; that of the Americans was five hundred and fifty-five, including the killed, wounded, and missing.

8. A plan for the whole campaign during this year had been fixed on by General Washington, in consultation with a number of officers, at Weathersfield, Conn., in May. Circumstances, however, induced Washington to change this plan before he found an opportunity for executing the chief part of it. He now directed his attention to the movements of Cornwallis, who had retired to Yorktown, a small village on the south side of York River, which place he had fortified. Washington's army arrived at Williamsburg, then the head quarters of the Marquis de la Fayette, September 25th.

9. The whole of the allied forces now amounted to sixteen thousand men, who were furnished with every facility for prosecuting the siege with every hope of success. The Count de Grasse, with his fleet of twenty-eight sail, proceeded up to the mouth of York River, to prevent Cornwallis from retreating or receiving supplies. On the 9th and 10th of October, the French and

Americans opened their batteries with cool and determined vigour. A firmness of purpose now seemed to animate the American commander and his troops, which promised a sure reward. The siege was pressed with increasing ardour during each succeeding day, till the 19th, when Cornwallis surrendered his whole army, amounting to more than seven thousand men, beside six commissioned and twenty-eight non-commissioned officers.

10. This important victory may be considered as virtually closing the scene of the revolutionary war. It was an event which was hailed with the sincerest joy by every friend of American freedom throughout the world.

To promote the general joy, and to acknowledge their dependence on the Divine Disposer of events, General Washington ordered that those who were under arrest should be pardoned and set at liberty, and that Divine service should be performed the next day in the different brigades and divisions. He recommended that all the troops who were not upon duty, should engage in the solemnities of that occasion with that serious deportment and sensibility of heart, which the surprising and particular interposition of Divine Providence claimed at such a time. Congress also resolved to proceed in solemn procession to the house of God, to return public thanks for the success with which the allied armies had been crowned; and a proclamation was issued also, appointing the 13th of December as a day of thanksgiving and prayer for the nation.

11. While the American army was absent at the south, and engaged in the siege of Yorktown, Sir H. Clinton despatched Arnold, the *traitor*, with a strong detachment, against New-London, a small but flourishing city on the river 'Thames, in Connecticut, his native state. Fort Trumbull surrendered with but little or no resistance.— 'This was situated on the west side of the river, and below the city. Fort Griswold, on the east side of the river, and opposite the city, was next assaulted on three sides at the same moment. It was defended by a garrison of only one hundred and sixty men, under Colonel Ledyard, and with a valour and heroism which should be had in everlasting remembrance.— 'The enemy finally entered the fort against the well-directed and destructive fire of the Americans. An officer of the assailants inquired, "Who commands this fort?" To which the gallant Ledyard answered, "I did, but you do now;" and at the same time presenting the hilt of his sword in token of his submission. 'The dastardly officer immediately seized it and plunged it through the body of Ledyard; upon which a general and indiscriminate massacre ensued; and although the Americans had ceased to resist, yet the greater part of the garrison were inhumanly murdered and cut to peices. The town of New-London was reduced to ashes, and Arnold, having accomplished the object of the expedition, returned to New-York.

12. The capture of a second entire British army in America, affected essentially the mea-

asures of the British ministry, and annihilated all hope, which the enemies of American freedom had entertained of subjugating the states ever again to the dominion of Great Britain. During the spring of 1782, a number of motions were made in the British parliament for closing the war, and on the 12th of March the house of commons resolved, "that the house would consider as enemies to his majesty, and to the country, all those who should advise, or attempt, the farther prosecution of offensive war on the continent of North America."

13. Commissioners for negotiating peace were soon after appointed, both on the part of Great Britain and the United States' congress: Mr. Fitzherbert and Mr. Oswald for the former, and on the part of the latter, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, John Jay, and Henry Laurens. On November 30, 1782, these commissioners signed provisional articles of peace at Paris, which were to form the basis of a future definite treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain, as soon as peace should take place between Great Britain and France. That event took place on the 3d of September, 1783, and on the same day a definite treaty of peace was also signed between Great Britain and the United States.

14. While the above measures were in progress, the American troops were retained in service, but they remained unemployed at their several stations, as hostilities had actually ceased between the two nations from the beginning

of 1783. On the 19th of April peace was formally proclaimed through the army, by the commander in chief, just eight years from the day when the first blood was spilled in the cause of freedom at Lexington, Mass.

15. On the 8th of June following, General Washington addressed a letter to each of the governors of the several states in the union, in which he pressed upon their attention those things which he believed most concerned them, and the people over which they were appointed to preside. "An indissoluble union of the states," says that worthy patriot, "under one general head; a sacred regard to public justice; the adoption of a proper peace establishment, and the prevalence of that pacific and friendly disposition among the people of the United States, which will induce them to forget their local prejudices and politics, to make those mutual concessions, which are requisite to the general prosperity; and, in some instances, to sacrifice their individual advantages to the interest of the community;—these are the pillars on which the glorious fabric of our independence and national character must be supported."

16. And after expressing his desire that each governor would communicate these sentiments to his legislature at its next session, this truly Christian hero adds, "I now make it my earnest prayer, that God would have you, and the state over which you preside, in his holy protection; that he would incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience

to government ; to entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another, for their fellow citizens of the United States at large, and particularly for their brethren who have served in the field ; and, finally, that he would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind, which were the Divine characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion ; without an humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a happy nation.”

17. The 3d day of November was fixed on by congress as the period for disbanding the army of the United States ; and on the previous day Washington issued his farewell orders, in which he expressed his affectionate solicitude for his companions in arms, who had fought and bled by his side in the field of battle. This paternal and affectionate address he concluded in the following affecting words :—“ Being now about to conclude these his last public orders, to take his leave in a short time of the military character, and to bid a final adieu to the armies he has so long had the honour to command, he can only offer again in their behalf his recommendations to their grateful country, and his prayers to the God of armies.

18. “ May ample justice be done them here, and may the choicest favour, both here and hereafter, attend those, who, under the Divine auspices, have secured innumerable blessings

for others! With these wishes, and this benediction, the commander-in-chief is about to retire from service. The curtain of separation will soon be drawn, and the military scene, to him, will be closed for ever."

Soon after taking the above leave of the army, General Washington took an affectionate leave of his officers, who had assembled for this purpose in the city of New-York. He shook each by the hand, and thus addressed them:—"With a heart full of love and gratitude, I now take my leave of you. I most devoutly wish, that your latter days may be as prosperous and happy, as your former ones have been glorious and honourable."

19. He immediately repaired to Annapolis, where congress was then in session, and on the 23d of December, in the presence of that body, he resigned to them his commission as commander-in-chief of the American armies. After having adverted to the accomplishment of his wishes in the independence of his country, and commended his officers and soldiers to the particular attention of congress, he concluded as follows:—"I consider it an indispensable duty to close the last solemn act of my official life, by commending the interests of our dearest country to the protection of almighty God, and those who have the superintendence of them to his holy keeping.

20. "Having now finished the work assigned me, I retire from the great theatre of action; and, bidding an affectionate farewell to this

august body, under whose orders I have long acted, I here offer my commission, and take my leave of all the employments of public life." Upon which congress, through their president, addressed this illustrious man, in glowing terms of commendation:—"We join you," said President Mifflin, "in commending the interests of our dearest country to the protection of almighty God; beseeching HIM to dispose the hearts and minds of its citizens to improve the opportunity afforded them of becoming a happy and respectable nation; and for you, we address to HIM our earnest prayers, that a life so beloved, may be fostered with all HIS care; that your days may be as happy as they have been illustrious; and that HE will finally give you that reward which this world cannot give."

CHAPTER XXI.

Formation and adoption of the federal constitution—Inauguration of George Washington as president of the United States.

1. IN the preceding chapters we have gone over some of the most interesting events ever recorded on the pages of history. From a few feeble colonies, we have seen these United States rising into existence, and defending themselves from the cruel encroachments of a powerful foe. Without a regular government, without an army, and destitute of every means necessary for self defence, we have seen them embarrassed

with poverty and want in every direction, and yet they carried on a successful war with a superior and vindictive enemy. To secure the blessings of freedom and independence to themselves and posterity, we have seen them braving every danger, foregoing every comfort, and finally surmounting every difficulty, till they became a free and independent nation.

2. But now their independence was acknowledged by Great Britain and other European powers: there were evils, however, in which they were still involved, from which no measures hitherto adopted by congress were found sufficient to deliver them. Public and private debts had been contracted during a long and tedious war, which bore heavily upon the people after the return of peace. The articles of confederation previously adopted by congress gave to the general government no power to raise money; hence the requisitions upon the states were often disregarded, and the nation thus left without a revenue.

3. At the close of the war the debts of the union amounted to about forty millions of dollars. It became therefore an object with congress, of the highest importance, to devise some means by which this debt might be paid, as without this it was easily seen the union and the credit of the nation could not be preserved. Accordingly it was proposed to the states, that they should grant to congress the power of laying a duty of five per cent. on all foreign goods imported into this country, and that the revenue

arising from this tax should go toward the liquidation of the public debt, till the whole of it was paid.

4. To this proposition all the states assented except Rhode Island and New-York; and as unanimity was indispensably necessary in a measure of this kind, all prospect of raising a revenue in this way was now cut off. In the meanwhile the interest of the debts due from the union to private individuals remained unpaid, and the national securities for debts were depreciated so very low, that many of the officers and soldiers of the late army who were poor, were under the necessity of selling them for less than one quarter of their nominal value. The general distress increased and prevailed to such an extent in some of the states, that it produced, among some of the inhabitants, open insurrection.

5. The first disturbance of this kind occurred in Massachusetts. It was headed by one Daniel Shays, who had been a captain in the revolutionary war. In August, 1786, he assembled a company of fifteen hundred insurgents, at Northampton, took possession of the court house, and prevented the session of the court. They demanded that the collection of debts should be suspended, and that the legislature should authorize the emission of paper money for general circulation among the people. But these seditious proceedings were very soon suppressed by the efficient measures which the state made use of for this purpose.

About the same time another insurrection broke out in New-Hampshire, but it was soon after suppressed without any material difficulty.

6. In September, 1786, a convention of commissioners from five of the middle states was held at Annapolis, for the purpose of planning and recommending to the states an efficient and uniform system of commercial regulations. This convention led congress to recommend the appointment of another, in which all the states might be represented, for the purpose of revising the articles of confederation, and adopting such other measures as might be thought necessary for the general good, and prosperity of the nation.

7. Accordingly, all the states in the union, except Rhode Island, complied with this recommendation, and in May, 1787, the convention met in Philadelphia. Of this venerable body, George Washington, a delegate from Virginia, was unanimously elected president. The convention proceeded with closed doors to discuss the important subjects which came before them, and at the end of four months they agreed upon a constitution for the United States, presented it to congress, and this body soon after sent it to the several states, to be considered and ratified by conventions called for this purpose. It was accordingly accepted and ratified, in the course of the year following, by the conventions of eleven states out of the thirteen, North Carolina and Rhode Island refusing to accept of it till two or three years after.

8. The constitution of the United States of America, which holds such a conspicuous place in the very existence of this vast republic, deserves a distinct notice here.

This noble instrument, which has now stood for so many years an imperishable monument of the wisdom and patriotism of those illustrious men by whom it was framed, vests the legislative power of the United States in a congress, which consists of two branches, one of which is called the senate, and the other the house of representatives. The members of the latter branch are elected, once in every two years, by the people qualified to vote in each state; and each state sends a number in proportion to the number of inhabitants. The senators are the representatives of the states in their sovereign capacity; each state sends two, and they are chosen by the state legislatures, for a term of six years.

9. The congress of the United States possesses the power to make and carry into effect all laws which may be necessary for the general welfare of the nation. This body may lay and collect taxes, imposts, and excises; they may borrow or coin money, establish post roads and post offices, regulate commerce and the militia, make laws for naturalizing foreigners, institute tribunals inferior to the supreme court, define and punish piracy, declare war, raise and support armies, provide a navy, and do every thing necessary to carry these powers into effect.

10. But they cannot pass any bill of attainder or retrospective law, nor suspend the writ of

habeas corpus, except in cases of invasion or rebellion. They cannot lay a direct tax but according to a census of the inhabitants; no duty can be laid on exports, nor can money be drawn from the treasury, except it is appropriated by law. They cannot confer any title of nobility, nor can any public officer receive any such title or any present from any foreign prince or power, without the consent of congress.

11. The executive power of the United States is vested in a president, appointed by electors, and who holds his office for four years. He is commander-in-chief of the army and navy, and of the militia when in actual service. He nominates to the senate all officers of the general government, grants reprieves and pardons, and ratifies treaties with the consent of two thirds of the senate. He may call the congress together on extraordinary occasions; and it is his duty to receive foreign ministers, and communicate, from time to time, such advice and information to congress as the state of the country may require. He may be impeached by the house of representatives, tried by the senate, and on conviction, for certain offences, he may be removed from office.

12. The judicial power of the United States is vested in a supreme court, and also in such other inferior courts as congress may ordain.—The judicial power of these courts extend to all cases in law and equity, arising under the constitution, treaties, or laws of congress; to the cases of consuls and public ministers, to all cases

of admiralty and maritime jurisprudence, to disputes between the states, and to controversies between citizens of different states, and between citizens and foreigners. The salaries of the judges cannot be diminished during their continuance in office, and they are continued in office during good behaviour.

13. Congress may admit new states into the union, and the constitution pledges to each and all the states a republican form of government, and protection from foreign invasion and domestic violence. In all criminal trials, the trial by jury is granted to the accused, except in cases of impeachment. The citizens of each state are entitled to all the privileges of citizens in the several states. Treason is restricted to levying war against the United States, and aiding and supporting her enemies, and no person can be convicted of this crime, except by confession in open court, or by two witnesses to the same act.

14. The constitution having been ratified by eleven of the states, the time now arrived for the election of the officers to compose the executive and legislative departments. Accordingly the delegates met for this purpose in New-York, and on March 3d, 1789, George Washington was unanimously chosen president, and John Adams vice president of the United States. On the 14th of the next month, the election of General Washington was officially presented to him while on his farm in Mount Vernon, Virginia. The fourth of March was designated as the day for

the commencement of the newly-constituted government, but the president elect, was not inaugurated till the 30th of April. This ceremony took place in New-York, in an open gallery adjoining the senate chamber, and in the view of a large concourse of people who had assembled to testify their joy on that interesting occasion.

15. After taking the oath of office, he returned to the senate chamber, where he addressed, in a very impressive and appropriate speech, both houses of congress. In this speech he took occasion to express the reluctance with which he had been called from his repose and retirement to fill a station so solemn and responsible as the one upon which he was then entering, and modestly referred to the deep sense which he felt of his unfitness for the mighty and untried cares before him. "Such being the impressions," said he, "under which I have, in obedience to the public summons, repaired to the present station, it would be peculiarly improper to omit, in this first official act, my fervent supplications to that almighty Being who rules over the universe, who presides in the councils of nations, and whose providential aid can supply every human defect, that his benediction may consecrate to the liberties and happiness of the people of the United States, a government instituted by themselves for these essential purposes, and may enable every instrument employed in its administration to execute with success the functions allotted to his charge."

16. In the conclusion he also expressed his

firm conviction, "that the foundations of our national policy should be laid in the pure and immutable principles of private morality, and that the pre-eminence of a free government should be exemplified by all the attributes which can win the affections of its citizens, and command the respect of the world."

17. Immediately after the above speech was concluded, the president, with both houses of congress, repaired to the house of God, and engaged in the duties of public devotion ; thus consecrating themselves and the cause in which they were engaged, to the special service and blessing of Heaven.

Let not American youth ever forget the worthy example of those illustrious patriots. They were men who feared God, they constantly acknowledged him, in the great enterprises which engaged their attention, and he, according to his promise, "directed their steps."

18. Immediately after the organization of the general government, the attention of congress was directed to the establishment of a sufficient revenue for the support of government and the discharge of the public debt. After a protracted discussion, it was agreed that congress should lay duties on imported goods and the tonnage of vessels. Laws were next enacted, arranging and fixing the several departments of the government, and the president proceeded according to the constitution to nominate the persons whom he thought suitable to fill them. Mr. Jefferson was appointed secretary of state, Col. Hamilton

secretary of the treasury, Gen. Knox secretary of war, and Edmund Randolph attorney general. A national judiciary was organized, and John Jay appointed at the head of it; and with him were associated John Rutledge, James Wilson, William Cushing, Robert Harrison, and John Blair.

19. During this session of congress several new articles were proposed, and submitted to the people in the different states for their approval, to be added to the constitution. The salaries of the different officers of the general government were also fixed at this session. It was also among its acts to appoint a day of public thanksgiving and prayer. Impressed with a deep sense of the Divine goodness, congress requested the president to designate a day on which the people might assemble, and, in pious gratitude, acknowledge their obligations to the supreme Ruler of the universe, for the mercies with which they had been distinguished, in being permitted to establish a government that promised so much safety and happiness to the nation.

20. After the adjournment of congress, the chief magistrate made a tour through the eastern states, which resulted in much joy and satisfaction both to himself and the people generally. He passed through Connecticut Massachusetts, and as far into New-Hampshire as Portsmouth, whence he returned by another route to New-York. He was every where received with expressions of the sincerest affec-

tion: people of all classes seemed to vie with each other in their efforts to demonstrate their undissembled homage to the chief magistrate of the nation. His presence was hailed with the most enthusiastic pleasure by many of the soldiers and officers who had served in the field under him, and who now rejoiced in having it in their power once more, personally, to afford him a token of their affectionate remembrance.

CHAPTER XXII.

Washington's administration—War with the north-western Indians—Re-election of Washington to the presidency.

1. THE next session of congress commenced in January, 1790. At the former session a resolution was passed, requesting the secretary of the treasury to mature a plan for the support of the public credit, and to present it to the next meeting. This plan was accordingly presented to congress at the commencement of this session. This celebrated report recommended that provision should be made for the full discharge of the foreign debt, according to the terms of the contract; and that means should be adopted for paying the domestic debt in a similar manner; and that the different debts contracted by the several states in carrying on the late war, should be assumed by the general government.

2. The report of the secretary was very ably discussed, and finally adopted. To meet the

object it proposed, congress resolved to apply the avails which might arise from the sales of the lands lying in the western territory, and the surplus product of the revenue, together with two millions of dollars, which the president was authorized to borrow for this purpose. These measures had a most favourable influence upon the state of things in the nation generally; a permanent basis was laid for the foundation of the national credit; the price of the paper, which had depreciated to twelve or fifteen cents on the dollar, immediately rose to the amount expressed on the face of it, and a new stimulus was suddenly communicated to commerce and agriculture throughout the country.

3. By an act of this session of congress, Vermont was admitted into the union, and in 1792 Kentucky was also added to the number of the states.

Congress before this had taken measures for the defence of the western frontiers, which for some time had been suffering from the repeated inroads which some hostile tribes of the savages were making upon the settlements. As the president had failed in his attempts to make peace with them, an expedition was now planned against them, and the charge of it committed to General St. Clair. The objects of this enterprise were to destroy the Indian villages on the Miamis, and drive the savages from that region, so that it might be connected with the Ohio country by a chain of posts, and their return prevented during the war.

4. The army of General St. Clair amounted to about one thousand four hundred men. On the 1st of November, 1791, he met the savages near the Miami, in Ohio, where a most severe engagement ensued, and he was totally defeated. Thirty-eight commissioned officers were killed, and nearly one half of his entire army were left among the slain. Various other attempts were afterward made to prosecute the war successfully against those hostile tribes, but without much effect, till August, 1794, when Gen. Wayne engaged them on the banks of the Miami. The Americans, at this time, did not exceed nine hundred, but the savages amounted to two thousand. They were completely routed, and their whole country laid waste. In the course of the next year they came to terms of peace, and a treaty was accordingly concluded between them and the United States, by which the western frontiers were secured from farther hostilities.

5. George Washington, having been re-elected to the presidency of the United States, was inducted into office in March 1793. Mr. Adams was chosen vice president. Events were now going on in France which excited the deepest interest throughout the United States. Many of that nation had participated with the Americans in their struggle for freedom and independence, and they had carried back to France a spirit which did not well agree with the monarchical form of government which had so long prevailed in that country. This spirit, together with other causes, had been gradually working

a revolution in France for a number of years before, and in the spring of 1793 information was received of the declaration of war, by France, against England and Holland.

6. As a treaty of alliance had been formed between the United States and France, it now became a question of the most serious importance, what course the former should take in relation to the belligerent powers. Washington laid the subject before his cabinet, and received their unanimous opinion, that a strict neutrality should be observed, by the United States, toward the contending nations; accordingly, the president issued his proclamation to this effect, on the 23d of April, 1793. This step, on the part of Washington, not having the sanction of congress, excited very considerable opposition: it was denounced by many as an assumption of power, unauthorized and highly dishonourable to the United States.

7. In March, 1794, congress passed an act to fortify and garrison the principal ports in the United States, and another to provide a naval force for the protection of American commerce. The reasons assigned for the last act were, that American merchant ships, and a number of American citizens had been captured by the Algerines, and preparations were still in progress to commit farther depredations on American commerce, by the Algerine corsairs. By this act, the president was empowered to equip and employ four ships, of forty-four guns each, and two of thirty-six guns each.

8. Another act was passed during this session of congress, which prohibited the slave trade from the ports of the United States. We have before observed, that the first slaves were introduced into Virginia by the Dutch: see chap. ii, 11. This most disgraceful and inhuman traffic was soon after taken up, and encouraged, in the colonies, by the British government, notwithstanding a determined opposition was very early manifested, by many of them, against it. Severe laws were passed against it in the Massachusetts colony, in 1645, and in 1703 a heavy duty was imposed on every negro imported into the colony, and the same legislature afterward denominated the practice "*the unnatural and unaccountable custom of enslaving mankind.*" And even Virginia made some efforts to prevent the trade, as early as 1699.

9. At the commencement of the revolutionary war, a man died in Providence, R. I., without a will, and a number of slaves which he owned fell to the town by law. A town meeting was called, to consider what should be done with them, whereupon it was resolved unanimously, that in view of the struggle in which the colonies were then engaged, for their rights and liberties, it would be manifestly inconsistent to retain those slaves in bondage, and they were accordingly set at liberty.*

* The above fact the author took from a newspaper, published at Newport, R. I., in 1774, or 1775.

The first continental congress passed a resolution against the traffic, and exhorted the colonies to abandon it altogether; and slavery was abolished, in toto, by all the New-England states in which it had existed, and some of the middle states also, soon after the declaration of independence. From the above facts we learn, that the United States were before Great Britain in their efforts to abolish slavery; now, however, Great Britain is far before us, as slavery is totally and for ever abolished throughout the British dominions.

10. Though the executive of the United States had resolved not to be drawn into the difficulty existing between France and England, yet a number of circumstances had occurred, since the peace of 1783, which, together with some acts of parliament, passed in relation to the war with France, seemed likely to involve the United States in another war with Great Britain. The latter was accused by the former of violating the articles of the treaty made at the close of the last war, in carrying away negroes, and retaining possession of certain military posts in the west, which, it was stipulated, should be given up to the United States.

11. Again, parliament had passed an act prohibiting the exportation of certain articles to France, and authorizing the capture of neutral vessels carrying them to any of the ports of that nation. Accordingly, a number of American vessels were captured by the British ships of war, and carried to England. These offensive

proceedings induced congress to adopt several measures in anticipation of another war with Great Britain. Bills were passed, imposing an embargo on all the United States ports, for thirty days, for putting the forts in a state of defence, and raising and regulating an army. But Mr. Jay having been appointed envoy extraordinary to the court of St. James, an amicable adjustment of these difficulties was concluded by him, in 1794, and in the spring of the next year a treaty of commerce and navigation, which had been signed by him, was ratified by the United States senate.

12. In 1791, congress had enacted laws, laying duties upon spirits distilled within the United States, and also upon distilleries. From the time these laws began to take effect, measures were taken in the four western counties of Pennsylvania to prevent their operation, and in the summer of 1794 this opposition arose to open violence. In August, President Washington issued a proclamation, commanding the insurgents, who had assembled with arms, to disperse, and warning all persons against encouraging such opposition; and in September another proclamation was issued, faithfully admonishing all persons concerned, and avowing his fixed determination to do all in his power to see that the laws of the land were faithfully executed. Finally, a body of the militia was ordered out, under the command of Governor Lee, of Maryland, upon the approach of which the malcontents laid down their arms, and promised future obedience to the laws.

13. Tennessee was admitted as a state into the union, by an act of congress, in June, 1796.

The time was now approaching when a new election of the chief magistrate of the nation must be made. A number of reasons induced Washington to form the resolution to decline standing again as a candidate for that office. A great part of his life had now been devoted to the service of his country; for a number of years he had led her armies upon the field, and in the councils of the nation also he had borne a distinguished part, in planning and maturing the principles of her government, which now promised so much good to the nation and the world.

14. He had sacrificed his own private views, and domestic quiet, in obeying the call of his country to occupy the posts which the suffrages of a free people had assigned him, and he now felt an ardent desire to terminate his public toil, and retire once more to the repose of private life.

He announced his design to the American people in a farewell address, which was every way worthy of a great and good man. The stations which Washington had occupied, and the experience he had acquired in conducting the affairs of the nation, gave him the most intimate knowledge of the dangers which threatened the prosperity of the republic, and qualified him more than any other individual to afford that advice to the people which the situation of the country required.

15. "The unity of government," said this paternal statesman, "which constitutes you one people, is now dear to you. It is justly so: for it is a main pillar in the edifice of your real independence; the support of your tranquillity at home; your peace abroad; of your safety, of your prosperity, of that very liberty which you so highly prize. But, as it is easy to foresee, that from different causes, and from different quarters, much pains will be taken, many artifices employed, to weaken in your minds the conviction of this truth; as this is the point of your political fortress, against which the batteries of internal and external enemies will be most constantly and actively, though often covertly and insidiously, directed, it is of infinite moment that you should properly estimate the immense value of your national union to your collective and individual happiness; that you should cherish a cordial, habitual, and immovable attachment to it, accustoming yourselves to think and speak of it as of the palladium of your political safety and prosperity; watching for its preservation with jealous anxiety, discountenancing whatever may suggest even a suspicion that it can in any event be abandoned; and indignantly frowning upon the first dawning of every attempt to alienate any portion of our country from the rest, or to enfeeble the sacred ties which now link together the various parts.

16. "Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity," he adds, "RELIGION and MORALITY are indispensable supports. In

vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism, who should labour to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens. The mere politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and cherish them; a volume could not trace all their connections with private and public felicity. Let it simply be asked, Where is the security for property, for reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation *desert* the oaths which are the instruments of investigation in courts of justice? and let us with caution indulge the supposition, that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that *national morality* can ever prevail in exclusion of *religious principle*."

17. The above language exhibits in striking features the Christian, the patriot, and the statesman, in the truest sense of these words. Such was *George Washington*; distinguished for his virtues while he lived, above all the heroes of antiquity, his greatness commanded the admiration of all who ever heard of his fame, and he died honoured and lamented by the whole world.

This melancholy event occurred on the 14th of December, 1799, at his seat, at Mount Vernon, in Virginia. He was only sick one day, but he died with the greatest composure, saying to his physician just before he left the world, "I am not afraid to die."

The news of his death clothed the nation in gloom. Congress, which was then in session at Philadelphia, immediately adopted resolutions expressive of their high sense of his worth, and took measures for offering a proper tribute of respect to his memory. Throughout the nation marks of unaffected and spontaneous grief were exhibited, orations and speeches were delivered, extolling the virtues of "the man first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his fellow citizens."

CHAPTER XXIII.

Administration of John Adams and Thomas Jefferson.

1. JOHN ADAMS, having been elected president of the United States, was inducted into office on the 4th of March, 1797. In his inaugural address to congress, he took an enlarged view of the rise and establishment of the American republic, the dependence of the people upon the Divine favour for the mercies which they enjoyed, and the means by which the blessings then enjoyed might be perpetuated to the latest ages of their posterity.

2. Soon after Adams came into office, the attention of congress was called to consider some communications of a very alarming character which had been made from the American minister at Paris, concerning the disposition of France toward the United States. The year before,

Mr. Pinckney had been appointed minister plenipotentiary to the French court, for the purpose of maintaining that friendly understanding, which, from the commencement of the alliance, had existed between the two nations, and to efface unfavourable impressions, banish suspicions, and restore that cordiality which was at once the evidence and pledge of a friendly union.

3. When he communicated his object to the proper authorities in France, he was directly informed, that no minister in his character would be received until the American government had met and satisfied the demands which the French republic had made against the United States, and accordingly he was ordered to quit the French dominions without delay.

And beside, American vessels were captured by the French wherever found, without any regard to the treaty of alliance and commerce, which for a number of years had been sacredly observed by the two nations.

4. In deliberating on this state of things, congress evinced a deep reluctance against engaging in war to remove the evil, but at the same time showed their sense of duty to the nation by enacting laws to put it in a state of safety and defence. The president was authorized to detach eighty thousand men from the militia of the United States, and to take other effective measures for regulating the army, and preparing for any emergency which might call for their services. At the same time other ministers were despatched to France, with instructions to bring

about a peaceable adjustment of the difficulties if possible.

5. These, however, met with no better reception than the other; they were insultingly informed, that before any negotiation could be opened, large sums of money must be advanced, and various methods were used to extort such a *tribute* from the American ministers. Much time was spent in fruitless labour to bring about a friendly adjustment of difficulties, till finally two of the envoys were ordered by the French government to quit their territory, and in the spring of 1798 intelligence was received of the total failure of the mission.

6. The knowledge of the above facts excited great indignation throughout the United States, and the language which every where prevailed was, "Millions for defence, not a cent for tribute." But while other preparations were making for an anticipated war with France, as the treaty of alliance was now annulled, she made peaceful overtures, and ministers being appointed for this purpose, a satisfactory treaty was settled between the two nations, at Paris, in Sept., 1800. Before this, a desperate action was fought between an American frigate, the *Constellation*, of thirty-eight guns, commanded by Commodore Truxton, and a French frigate of forty guns.—The former, though inferior in force, was victorious; and in another action shortly after, with another French frigate of fifty guns, she conquered, but the enemy after striking her flag escaped in the night.

7. In 1800 the seat of the general government, according to a previous resolution of congress, was transferred from Philadelphia to Washington city, in the District of Columbia.— This district was ceded to the United States by Maryland and Virginia, in 1790 : it is about ten miles square, and is on the tide waters of the Potomac, about three hundred miles from the sea. This section is under the sole jurisdiction of congress. Here suitable buildings have been erected for the accommodation of congress and officers of the general government, and to the city the name of *Washington* was most appropriately given.

8. Thomas Jefferson was inducted into office as president of the United States, March 4, 1801. Aaron Burr was chosen vice president. The administration of Mr. Adams was rendered unpopular by some of the measures adopted by congress during his presidency, and it was easily foreseen, before his time of service expired, that there would be strong opposition made against his re-election. In the speech of Mr. Jefferson, delivered before congress, on his induction into office, he gave a very full and free expression of his political views, and the principles by which he designed to be governed in the discharge of his duties as chief magistrate of the nation.

9. Among these were, “equal and exact justice to all men, of whatever state or persuasion, religious or political; peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none; the support of the state

governments in all their rights, as the most competent administration for our domestic concerns, and the surest bulwarks against anti-republican tendencies; the preservation of the general government in its whole constitutional vigour, as the sheet anchor of our peace at home, and safety abroad.

10. "A jealous care of the right of election by the people, a mild and safe corrective of abuses which are lopped by the sword of revolution where peaceable remedies are unprovided; absolute acquiescence in the decisions of the majority, the vital principle of republics, from which is no appeal but to force, the vital principle and immediate parent of despotisms; a well-disciplined militia, our best reliance in peace, and for the first moments of war, till regulars may relieve them.

11. "The supremacy of the civil over the military authority; economy in the public expenses, that labour may be lightly burdened; the honest payment of our debts, and sacred preservation of the public faith; encouragement of agriculture, and of commerce as its handmaid; the diffusion of information, and arraignment of all abuses at the bar of public reason; freedom of religion; freedom of the press; and freedom of person under the protection of the habeas corpus, and trial by juries impartially selected.

"These principles," said Mr. Jefferson, "should form the creed of our political faith; and should we wander from them in moments of error or alarm, let us hasten to retrace our steps, and to

regain the road which alone leads to peace, liberty, and safety."

12. Mr. Jefferson informed congress of certain aggressions committed against the American commerce by some Tripolitan cruisers, and the demands of that government for tribute from all vessels trading to her ports. Whereupon measures were taken by congress to protect the shipping of the United States, and to chasten the enemy for the wrongs they had committed. It was not, however, till 1803 that any thing special was accomplished to this end, when Commodore Preble, with a large fleet, bombarded the forts and town of Tripoli. And in the beginning of the next year, a valiant attack was made against those barbarians, by Stephen Decatur, a lieutenant in the American navy, which humbled them, and greatly exalted the fame of the American arms.

13. William Eaton, who had formerly been a captain in the American army, was consul at Tunis, when this war commenced. While there, this intrepid man formed a most daring and laborious project against the Tripolitans, and which he successfully executed.

He raised an army in Egypt, in company with the brother of the sovereign of Tripoli, and marched through incredible hardships across the desert, one thousand miles. On the 25th of April, 1805, after fifty days of hard travelling, they arrived at Derne, a Tripolitan city on the Mediterranean Sea. The city was attacked and captured, but with considerable loss among the assailants.

14. A few days after the Americans had fortified the city which they had conquered, they were attacked by a very large Tripolitan army, but they resisted with desperate valour for more than four hours, till the assailants were compelled to retire. Another battle was fought on the first of June following, and as before the American arms were crowned with victory. Soon after, a treaty of peace was concluded, and thus the United States taught the Barbary powers to respect the flag of the nation "without the payment of a disgraceful tribute."

15. In 1802 Ohio became a state, and was admitted into the union. An ordinance was passed by congress, in 1787, for the government of this section, in which it was provided that slavery should never disgrace that, as it had done other portions of the country.

The term of Mr. Jefferson's presidency having expired, he was elected again to this office, and took the oath required in the constitution, March 4th, 1805. George Clinton was chosen vice president.

This year Michigan was constituted a district territorial government of the United States, and General Hull was appointed the first governor.

16. In the summer of 1807, an event occurred, which, for awhile, seemed to provoke the just indignation of the whole American people. The Chesapeake, an American frigate, commanded by Commodore Barron, was come up with and fired upon by the Leopard, a British ship of war, without the least provocation. Three of

her men were killed, and eighteen wounded.— This daring outrage to humanity, and insult to national honour, aroused the attention of congress, and measures were immediately taken to redress the wrong, and maintain the dignity and acknowledged rights of the nation.

17. The president issued a proclamation, forbidding all British ships of war from entering any of the harbours of the United States, and prohibiting all intercourse with them; and an armed vessel was immediately despatched to England with instructions to the American minister at London to inquire into the affair, and to ask for suitable satisfaction and security against farther aggressions of this kind.

In the meanwhile, the president called a meeting of congress, to determine on what farther measures should be adopted. He informed them of what he had done, and also of a proffered treaty of the British government, which he had rejected, because it gave no pledge of cessation, on the part of the British ships of war, from impressing American seamen.

18. At this time France and England were at war, and some of the measures taken by both these nations, to annoy each other, seriously affected the commercial interests of the United States, which induced congress to lay an embargo on all vessels within its jurisdiction. The president was also empowered to equip one hundred thousand of the national militia, and a million of dollars was voted for this purpose; and other large sums were granted for building gun boats,

preparing fortifications, and making additions to the army.

19. In 1807, Aaron Burr, who had formerly been vice president of the United States, was apprehended, and tried on a charge of treason against his country ; and also on a charge of preparing and commencing an expedition against the dominions of Spain. He had purchased, the year before, a number of boats, on the Ohio ; and engaged men to descend that river in them, under the ostensible purpose of forming a new settlement in Louisiana, but from a number of accidental disclosures made by some of his party, in the meantime, suspicion was immediately excited as to his real design.

He was tried before John Marshall, chief justice of the United States, but sufficient evidence of his guilt could not be found, to convict him, according to the constitution, and he was accordingly acquitted by the jury : see chapter xxi, 13.

20. The embargo law mentioned above, 17, was exceedingly afflicting to some parts of the United States, especially so in New-England, as it prevented many of the people from pursuing their accustomed course of trade, and seemed, for awhile, to threaten them with poverty and ruin. At the same time there were sufficient reasons seen and felt, by the great proportion of the people, for the passage of this law ; but as it failed to accomplish the end which congress had in view in passing it, in March, 1809, it was repealed, and another substituted for it, pro-

hibiting all intercourse with France and England, until those nations annulled the hostile edicts which they had passed, and which bore so unjustly against the commerce of the United States.

CHAPTER XXIV.

The administration of James Madison—and war with Great Britain.

1. MR. JEFFERSON'S second term of office having expired, on the 4th of March, 1809, Mr. Madison was inducted into the presidency, and George Clinton was re-elected vice president.

The measures which Great Britain and France still continued to take in the prosecution of the war with each other, increased the embarrassments in the way of the United States commerce, and rendered the situation of this country exceedingly critical and gloomy. Every effort of congress, and of the president, to remove the difficulties, proved ineffectual, till it was every where seen, that the nation must either submit to the most insulting violation of her rights, or take up arms in their defence.

2. In June, 1812, the president earnestly requested the attention of congress to this subject, and stated some of the offences which were constantly committed, by Great Britain, against the peace and rights of this nation. Among which were the seizure of persons, upon the high seas, who were sailing under the Ameri-

can flag ; the impressment of American seamen, and their compulsion to serve on board British ships of war ; the violation of the peace and rights of our coasts, by British cruisers ; and the instigation of the Indians to acts of hostility, by British agents, against the peaceful inhabitants of our western frontiers.

3. He therefore submitted it to congress, whether the United States ought to continue passive, under such repeated aggressions and accumulated wrongs ; or, committing their cause into the hands of the God of justice, whether they should not, without delay, make use of the means which he had put in their power, and defend their rights against the increasing usurpations of an insolent foe.

The message, in which this appeal was made, was referred to a committee on foreign relations, who immediately presented a manifesto to the house of representatives of the reasons for an immediate war with Great Britain ; and the next day, June 4th, a bill, to this effect, was passed by the house of representatives. On the 17th of the same month it passed the senate, and the next day the president issued his proclamation, declaring war with Great Britain.

4. As to the expediency of this measure, both houses of congress, as well as the people of the United States, were considerably divided. The following views were taken of it, in the report of the committee mentioned above :—

“Your committee,” said they, “believing that the free-born sons of America are worthy to en-

joy the liberty which their fathers purchased at the price of much blood and treasure, and seeing by the measures adopted by Great Britain, a course commenced and persisted in, which might lead to a loss of national character and independence, feel no hesitation in advising resistance by force, in which the Americans of the present day will prove to the enemy, and the world, that we have not only inherited that liberty which our fathers gave us, but also the will and the power to maintain it. Relying on the patriotism of the nation, and confidently trusting that the Lord of hosts will go with us to battle in a righteous cause, and crown our efforts with success, your committee recommend an immediate appeal to arms."

5. But the minority in the house of representatives, comprising the principal part of the members from New-England, presented a solemn protest against the declaration of war, in an address to their constituents. They urged their objections on the ground that the injuries of which the United States complained, might be adjusted without resorting to arms, and that a war with Great Britain, even if prosecuted with ever so much vigour, on our part, would certainly involve the nation in greater evils than any she had already suffered.

6. The attention of congress was now taken up in making preparations for the war in which they had resolved to engage ; acts were passed, for enlisting twenty-five thousand men, and the president was empowered to raise fifty thousand

volunteers, and employ one hundred thousand of the militia for the defence of the country.

It is true, the zeal and patriotism of many of the people in the United States run high on this occasion; they had not forgotten the success of their arms when the country was engaged in a previous war, and they now anticipated a success still more brilliant, as the nation had increased in wealth and numbers, and no doubt was now entertained but certain conquest would crown their efforts in the defence of a good cause.

7. However, there was a disparity between the powers of the two nations, which we may reasonably suppose was not sufficiently considered by some in the great excitement which prevailed at that time. No occasion had occurred since the revolutionary war to call forth and increase the military energies of the nation, while all this time the enemy she now had to encounter had been multiplying her arms, and increasing in that kind of skill and strength which is necessary to use them.

And beside, there was now a want of well-tried and experienced officers in the American army to lead forth the troops upon the field of battle, as most of those honoured heroes who had served in the first war were now either dead, or so far advanced in age, as to be incapable of so high a trust.

8. A few were found, however, from whom a number were chosen for the above purpose.—Henry Dearborn, of Massachusetts, was appointed major general and commander-in-chief; the

office of major general was also conferred on Thomas Pinkney, of South Carolina; and Wilkinson, Hull, Bloomfield, and Hampton, were appointed to the office of brigadiers.

In August of this year, 1812, an event occurred which filled the nation with mortification and disappointment. General Hull, the governor of the Michigan territory, had been sent to Detroit with an army of two thousand men, for the purpose of putting an end to the hostilities which were committed against the inhabitants in that region. After some maneuvering and boasting of his power, General Brock, with some Indians and British militia, marched against him, and Hull, without suffering his valiant men to attempt the least resistance, coward like, surrendered his army, and the whole territory over which he was placed, into the hands of the enemy.

9. But the chagrin occasioned by this disgraceful affair, was in a measure forgotten in the general joy which was caused very soon after, by a series of victories achieved by our ships upon the ocean.

The first was won by the United States frigate *Constitution*, under the command of Captain Isaac Hull, which captured, in an action of thirty minutes, the British frigate *Guerriere*, commanded by Captain Dacres. The loss of the *Constitution* was seven killed, and the same number was wounded; the *Guerriere* had fifteen killed, sixty-four wounded, and twenty-one missing, and she was so disabled in the action, that Captain Hull caused her to be burnt immediately after.

10. During the same month, the United States frigate, commanded by Captain Porter, captured a British sloop of war after an action of only eight minutes. Another victory was achieved on the 18th of October, by Captain Jones, in the sloop of war called the Wasp, carrying eighteen guns, over the British brig Frolic, carrying twenty-two guns, after a bloody action of three quarters of an hour. This victory shed a brilliant lustre upon the naval prowess of the United States. The Wasp had only eight killed and wounded, but the Frolic, though decidedly superior in force, had, in killed and wounded, no less than ten times that number. But this gallant ship was captured, with her prize, the same day, by a British seventy-four.

11. Another victory followed the above on the 25th of the same month. The frigate United States, Captain Decatur, commander, fell in with, and captured the British frigate Macedonian, after a desperate action which lasted one hour and a half. The Macedonian carried forty-nine guns, and was manned with three hundred men, of whom thirty-six were killed, and sixty-eight wounded. On board the American frigate seven only were killed and five wounded.

The generosity and kindness of sailors, though often accustomed to such scenes of blood and death, have been proverbial from the remotest ages. An event took place in the above engagement with the Macedonian, which afforded an occasion for the illustration of these kind dispo-

sitions, certainly to good advantage. It became known on board the American frigate, after the action, that a carpenter, who had left a poor wife with three helpless children, had unfortunately fallen in the contest. Whereupon a contribution was immediately set on foot, and the noble sum of eight hundred dollars made up, for the support and education of the poor little hapless ones, whom that fight had rendered fatherless.

12. We have already recorded one victory achieved by the Constitution. On the 29th of the December following, she accomplished another, over the British frigate Java, after a most destructive action of more than three hours. She was at this time commanded by Captain Bainbridge : of her crew thirty-four were killed and wounded ; the Java had sixty killed and one hundred and twenty wounded.

While these successive victories were achieved upon the ocean, nothing of importance was done on the land. The American troops had been divided into three armies, one of which was placed under the command of General Harrison, and called the *north western* army ; the second was put under General Van Rensselaer, and called the *centre* army ; and the other was called the *north* army, and was commanded by General Dearborn, the commander-in-chief.

13. At the session of congress held in the fall of 1812, the president was authorized to increase the army, by an addition of twenty regiments of infantry, and to take measures for raising money to defray the expenses of the

war, and provision was also made for building a number of ships for the navy.

The president called upon the several governors of the different states, according to a previous act of congress, for a proportioned number of militia, to man the fortresses, on the maritime frontiers. But Governor Strong, of Massachusetts, Jones, of Rhode Island, and Griswold, of Connecticut, refused to comply with this demand, upon the ground, that the exigencies had not arrived, for which the constitution authorized such a requisition.

14. On the 4th of March, 1813, Mr. Madison was inducted into office, as president of the United States, for the second term, and Elbridge Gerry was elected vice president.

The military operations of this year were principally in the north, toward Canada. In January, General Winchester, with nearly five hundred men, was made a prisoner, by a British army, at Frenchtown. In April, York, the capital of Upper Canada, was taken by the American troops, under General Dearborn. The loss of the Americans, in that enterprise, amounted to two hundred and three, that of the enemy was nine hundred and thirty, of which number, seven hundred and fifty were made prisoners.

15. May 27th Fort George was taken by the American troops, under General Boyd and Colonel Miller. The enemy lost one hundred and eight killed, and seven hundred and seventy-five who were taken prisoners. The loss of

the Americans was only thirty-nine, one hundred and eight were wounded. Soon after the above, General Provost, with one thousand British, made an attack upon Sackett's Harbour, but they were repulsed with considerable loss, leaving two hundred and sixty dead upon the field, and about thirty were taken prisoners.

16. On the first of June, the United States frigate *Chesapeake*, under the command of Capt. James Lawrence, was captured by the British ship *Shannon*, Captain Brocke, after an action of only eleven minutes. This victory was the more easily gained by the superior force of the enemy, as most of the *Chesapeake's* crew were but recently enlisted, and many of them in a state of unfitness for an engagement. About seventy of them were killed and eighty-three wounded: of the enemy twenty-three were killed and fifty wounded. The gallant Lawrence was among the slain.

A victory of this kind having become somewhat of a rare occurrence, in the British navy, this was hailed with great joy and rejoicing throughout the British empire, and Capt. Brocke was rewarded with unusual honours, for having conquered an American frigate, in single combat, a work this, which many of his compeers in office had found themselves unable to accomplish.

17. In August, the United States sloop of war *Argus*, of eighteen guns, was captured by the *Pelican*, carrying twenty guns. But these losses were soon after made up to the Americans, as we shall presently see. On the 5th of September, a severe action was fought between the

American brig *Enterprise*, Lieutenant Burrows commander, and the *Boxer*, a British brig of the same size, commanded by Captain Blythe. After an engagement of about twenty minutes, the enemy pulled down her flag, and cried for quarters. The commanders of both vessels were killed, and in Portland, Maine, were buried, each by the other's side.

18. At Craney Island, the British were defeated by Colonel Beaty, Captain Torbell, and others of the United States navy. One thousand two hundred were either killed, drowned, or wounded, beside forty of the enemy who deserted.

The warlike movements on Lake Erie, and on the north-western frontier, now demand our attention. By the exertions of Commodore Perry, an American squadron had been prepared for service, on the above-named lake, consisting of nine small vessels, carrying fifty-four guns. At the same time, a British squadron of six vessels, comprising two ships, two brigs, one schooner, and a sloop, mounting in all sixty-three guns, was fitted out on the same lake, under the command of Commodore Barclay.

19. Every thing being in readiness, Commodore Perry sailed and offered an engagement with the adversary. On the 10th of September they fell in with each other; Perry immediately hoisted the American flag, on which were inscribed the dying words of the heroic Lawrence, "Dont give up the ship," and this signal was directly answered by three loud cheers from all the other vessels

of his squadron, which signified the readiness of the American tars to sustain their valiant commander in the approaching conflict. A calm prevented the whole of both squadrons from being brought into close action, at first, and for two hours the American flag ship sustained, alone, the constant fire of two of the enemy's vessels. Her crew, amounting to one hundred, were all either wounded or killed, but seven, and she was so much cut to pieces as to be unmanageable, when the wind springing up brought another of Perry's vessels into the action, and to this ship the commodore now transferred himself and flag, in an open boat, through the unremitted fire of the enemy.

20. The wind now brought the squadrons into contact, and the battle raged with dreadful fury. Very soon one of the enemy's vessels was silenced, and surrendered, and then another, and then a third, till the whole were captured. Thus a complete victory was obtained over a decidedly superior force, and a whole squadron yielded to the valour of a few American seamen. The enemy lost forty-one killed, and ninety-four wounded; the Americans lost twenty-seven killed, and ninety-six wounded; but they took six-hundred prisoners, which amounted to more in number than the whole of Perry's crew put together.

21. Something was now done toward recovering the territory which, some time before, had been surrendered to the British, by Governor Hull. Accordingly, to accomplish this object,

General Harrison assembled a portion of the Ohio militia, and uniting these with his own troops, and four thousand men from Kentucky, under Governor Shelby, by the aid of the fleet on Lake Erie, he reached Malden on the 27th of September; but the British, anticipating their approach, set fire to the store houses, and abandoned the fort before General Harrison arrived.

22. The Americans pursued them, and on the fifth of the next month brought them to a general action, when, after making what resistance they could, the whole force surrendered to the American arms. In this battle the celebrated Indian warrior, Tecumseh, was killed. The British had seventy killed and wounded: six-hundred were taken prisoners. The Americans lost in killed and wounded about fifty. The Indians left one hundred and twenty on the field.

23. On the 29th of September, the Americans had taken possession of Detroit, as it was abandoned by the enemy on the approach of Harrison's army. This concluded the Indian war in that quarter, and General Harrison leaving Gen. Cass, with about one thousand men, proceeded with the rest of his force to join the army of the centre at Buffalo, in New-York; but his services not being needed as an officer, in that place, he soon after received permission and retired from the army.

CHAPTER XXV.

Progress of the war—Declaration of peace.

1. Soon after Mr. Madison was re-elected to the presidency, a communication was made to the American government, that the emperor of Russia, wishing to effect a peaceable adjustment of the difficulties between America and Great Britain, had voluntarily offered his services to mediate between the two governments. Accordingly, Messrs. Gallatin, Bayard, and J. Q. Adams were appointed commissioners to meet any other commissioners who might be appointed on the part of Great Britain, to negotiate with them a treaty of peace at St. Petersburg.

2. The second Thursday in September, 1813, was observed by the people of the United States as a day of fasting and prayer, according to a previous proclamation of the president which was issued at the recommendation of congress, for this purpose.

From the commencement of the war, the Creek Indians at the south had engaged in hostilities against the whites. They had been early incited to do so by Tecumseh, who visited them and persuaded them to believe that it was the will of the Great Spirit, that they should unite with the Indians at the north for the utter extirpation of the whites.

3. Against the repeated invasions of those savage marauders, General Jackson made a successful resistance. With a body of three thou-

sand five hundred militia, from Tennessee, he marched into their country, and after a number of sanguinary conflicts, in which great numbers were slain on both sides, he effectually subdued and brought them to terms of submission.

4. In December, 1813, the fifteenth congress of the United States commenced its second session. Among the measures adopted for the more vigorous prosecution of the war, laws were passed authorizing the offer of one hundred and twenty-four dollars to all soldiers who would enlist during the war, as a bounty, and making an appropriation of half a million of dollars for the construction of one or more steam batteries, as the public service might require.

5. At the same time, a communication was received from the British government, in which they refused to comply with the proposed mediation of the emperor of Russia, but they made a proposition of a direct negotiation to be held at London or Gottenburgh. This proposal was acceded to by congress, and H. Clay, and J. Russell were appointed in addition to the other commissioners, who had already gone to Europe for the purpose of bringing about a negotiation at St. Petersburg.

6. In the beginning of 1814, the American frigate *Essex*, Commodore Porter, was captured after a most determined and protracted resistance, by a superior British force, in the bay of Valparaiso. Soon after the above event, the United States sloop of war *Peacock* fell in with and captured the British brig *Epervier*. The

former lost one man in the action, the latter lost eight, beside fifteen wounded. This victory was followed by another which was achieved June 28th, by the *Wasp*, before mentioned, over the British brig *Reindeer*. The *Wasp* lost twenty-six of her men, the *Reindeer* had twenty-seven killed and forty-two wounded. The *Wasp* was commanded at this time by Captain Blakely, and in the same cruise she encountered and sunk the *Avon*, a ship of superior force. What became of this gallant ship, or her brave crew, after this was never known.

7. The first regular pitched battle during this war, was fought in July of this year, at Chippewa, between General Brown and three thousand troops under his command, and about the same number of the enemy, commanded by General Riall. On the 4th General Brown left Fort Erie, of which he had taken possession the day before, and proceeded to the strong works behind which the British were intrenched. After some hesitancy, General Riall showed his army in the open field, and a most bloody and obstinate conflict ensued. The Americans conquered, and the enemy fled in confusion to their intrenchments, leaving upward of five hundred of their number dead or wounded upon the field.

8. General Riall, immediately after this defeat, retired to Burlington, where he was joined by General Drummond with a large force, and the army soon after commenced their return to the American camp. General Brown, with his

valiant troops, met them near the falls of Niagara, July 25th. The battle began about four o'clock in the afternoon, and raged with dreadful fury till midnight, when the British left the Americans in possession of the field. This battle is said to have been most severe and bloody beyond description. The solemn roar of the majestic falls was often silenced by the deafening thunder of the cannon, while the revolving columns and clouds of smoke obscured the pale moon which now and then looked out from the darkened heavens. Streaks and sheets of vivid fire, poured from the deep-mounted cannon and the succeeding discharges of musketry, often showed the position of each advancing line, and added a most majestic and dreadful grandeur to the scene.

9. The slaughter of human life in the above battle was appalling in proportion to the desperation with which it was fought. The total loss of the British force, which amounted to something short of five thousand, was eight hundred and seventy-eight. The American force numbered one third less, and their loss, in killed and missing, amounted to eight hundred and sixty.

About the middle of August following, the enemy made an ineffectual attempt to reduce Fort Erie. They were repulsed with the loss of five hundred and eighty-two. The American loss was two hundred and forty-five.

But the enemy soon after returned again to the siege. General Brown having now recovered from the wounds he received in the bat-

tle at Niagara Falls, proceeded to the fort and took the command on the 1st of September. A few days after, he led out his army, scarcely one third as numerous as that of the enemy, which amounted to five thousand, and an engagement ensued in which this brave general was again successful. After a severe battle which lasted one hour, he returned to the fort, having lost five hundred of his men, and killed and captured one thousand of the enemy.

10. The movements of the British on the sea now began again to attract the attention of the nation. England, at this time, was at peace with all the world but the United States; her navy was numerous, and powerful, and nothing was in the way to prevent its whole force from being levelled against the nation which was now her only enemy.

Hence, about the middle of August, 1814, a squadron of about sixty vessels arrived in the Chesapeake River, with a proportionate number of troops, for an attack upon the capital of the United States. A body of five thousand of them having landed, a battle was fought six miles from Washington, at Bladensburg. The Americans not finding themselves able to withstand them, the enemy proceeded toward the city.

11. General Ross advanced at the head of seven hundred men, and took possession of the capital; he immediately set fire to the senate house, and all the public buildings, and the arsenal; the navy yard, and the bridge over the

Potomac, were also consumed. In this expedition the British lost no less than one thousand men, in killed, wounded, and missing, the Americans but ten or twelve.

Their success in the capture of Washington now emboldened the enemy to try their arms on the city of Baltimore; and on the 12th of Sept. General Ross landed with a body of more than five thousand men, at the north point, and immediately commenced his march toward the city. In anticipation of an attack, General Stricker was ordered, with three thousand troops, to impede the progress of the enemy, by General Smith, who commanded the American forces in the city. After a very spirited resistance by General Stricker, a part of the militia under him gave way; this so weakened the hands of the others, that the general now deemed it prudent to fall back to some breastworks which he had left in the rear, which he did in good order. The Americans lost in this encounter one hundred and sixty-three men, among whom were some of the most respectable inhabitants of Baltimore.

12. On the 1st of September, George Provost, the governor general of Canada, entered the territories of the United States with a force of fourteen thousand men. The commander at Plattsburgh, Brigadier General Macomb, took measures for reinforcing his army, and made preparations for the reception of the enemy. On the 6th of September they arrived on the opposite side of the small river Saranac, on which the

town of Plattsburgh is situated. The Americans tore up the bridge which was laid across the river, and commenced the erection of a temporary breastwork, by which the efforts of the British to cross the stream were rendered ineffectual.

13. The American forces on the other side were constantly augmented by the arrival of troops and militia, and the enemy finding it impossible to cross the river commenced the erection of batteries, for their own defence. At this time an American fleet was lying near Plattsburgh, in Lake Champlain, carrying eighty-six guns, and eight hundred and twenty-six men, under Commodore Macdonough. Early in the morning of the 11th, a British squadron, carrying ninety-five guns, and manned with one thousand and fifty men, under the command of Commodore Downie, was seen bearing down upon the American line.

14. At nine o'clock, as if upon a preconcerted signal, the battle commenced, both upon the land and on the lake. In about two hours the ships of the enemy were silenced, and one frigate, one brig, and two sloops of war, fell into the hands of the gallant Macdonough, as a reward for his valour. The shout of victory which now reverberated over the smooth and peaceful lake, animated, with fresh vigour, the American troops upon the land. The enemy attempting to ford the river, a little above the village, were mown down with a most destructive fire from the militia, as often as they advanced into the

water, till their dead bodies floated in scores down the Saranac.

15. The contest was continued, till toward evening the enemy began to withdraw to their intrenchments, and as soon as the shades of night covered them from the sight of the Americans, they fled to a distance of eight miles, leaving their sick and wounded, together with large quantities of military stores. The Americans lost, in this battle, one hundred and ten on the lake, and one hundred and nineteen on the land; the British lost, on the lake, one hundred and ninety-four, beside a number of prisoners; and on the land, including five hundred who deserted, their loss amounted to two thousand five hundred.

16. We have stated before, that in some parts of the country considerable opposition was felt and manifested against this war, as it was deemed unjust and impolitic, and that these views prevailed to the greatest extent in the states of New-England. The feelings of the people became more and more disaffected against the measures of the general government, till finally a convention was proposed, by the Massachusetts legislature, to consist of delegates from all the New-England states, the object of which was to take into consideration the condition of the country, and to propose the means by which it might be relieved from the grievances under which it was thought to labour.

17. Accordingly, on the 15th of December, 1814, delegates were convened in Hartford,

Connecticut, from Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New-Hampshire, Vermont, and Connecticut, which has since been called the "Hartford convention." They sat for three weeks in secret, and passed a number of resolutions expressive of their views and feelings. Upon their adjournment they published an address to the people, in which they enumerated a list of grievances which were thought to bear particularly hard upon the inhabitants of New-England, and suggested several amendments to the constitution of the United States, as a preventive against the recurrence of similar evils in time to come.

18. The battle of New Orleans was fought January 8th, 1815. Early in the December previous, intelligence had been received that about sixty sail of the enemy were off the coast, east of the Mississippi. Soon after, a body of troops was landed, to the number of fifteen thousand, under the command of Sir Edward Packenham. General Jackson being in command at New Orleans, and anticipating their approach, took the most spirited and efficient measures for the defence of the city. He had erected a straight breastwork of one thousand yards, upon an even plain, below the city, behind which were stationed more than three thousand infantry and artillerists.

19. Early in the morning of the 8th, the main body of the enemy, consisting of more than seven thousand men, were seen advancing up the plain, toward the American lines. Eight distinct batteries, having been prepared for the

purpose by General Jackson, now opened upon the approaching columns a most destructive shower of grape shot, and strewed the field with the dead. As soon as they had come within the reach of the American musketry, and rifles, one unbroken stream of death swept them by hundreds from their ranks, and in a few moments they became disordered and fled.

20. In attempting to rally them, Sir Edward was killed, but Generals Gibbs and Kean succeeded in bringing the men to a second assault; and the former was mortally wounded in the meantime, and the latter severely. They were repulsed the second time with a greater loss than before, and the well-directed fire of the Americans thinned their ranks in every direction, till finally they turned, and fled in disorder to their camp, leaving two thousand of their number either wounded or dead upon the field, while the killed and wounded of the Americans scarcely amounted to one dozen.

21. On the 15th of the same month, the American frigate *President* was captured by a British squadron; and about the same time, the *Constitution* captured the British frigate *Cyane*, of thirty-four guns, and the *Levant*, a sloop of war, carrying eighteen guns. In the midst of the rejoicings which the above events occasioned, the news arrived of a treaty of peace having been concluded, at Ghent, by the commissioners, in December; and on the 17th of February this treaty was ratified by the president and senate of the United States.

22. In June following a treaty of peace was concluded at Algiers, with the dey of that country, and the government of the United States. Hostilities had been commenced by the dey of Algiers, in violation of his solemn treaty, three years before, by seizing American shipping, and making slaves of their crews. In one article of the treaty of peace concluded with Great Britain, a stipulation was made for the abolition of the slave trade, in these words: "Whereas the traffic in slaves is irreconcilable with the principles of humanity and justice; and whereas both his majesty and the United States are desirous of continuing their efforts to promote its entire abolition; it is hereby agreed, that both the contracting parties shall use their best endeavours to accomplish so desirable an object."

In December, 1815, Indiana became an independent state, and was admitted into the union by an act of congress.

CHAPTER XXVI.

James Monroe's administration—John Quincy Adams elected president.

1. MR. MADISON's term of office having expired, James Monroe took the oath, according to the constitution, and entered upon the duties of the presidency, March 4th, 1817. Daniel D. Tompkins was chosen vice president. The president, in his inaugural speech, took an enlight.

ened view of the state and general prosperity of the country, and of the means by which it might be continued.

“Had the people of the United States,” said he, “been educated in different principles; had they been less intelligent, or less virtuous, can it be believed that we should have maintained the same steady and consistent career, or been blessed with the same success? While, then, the constituent body retains its present sound and healthful state, every thing will be safe. They will choose competent and faithful representatives for every department. It is only when the people become ignorant and corrupt; when they degenerate into a populace, that they are incapable of exercising the sovereignty.”

2. “Let us then,” he continues, “by all wise and constitutional measures, promote intelligence among the people, as the best means of preserving our liberties. It is peculiarly gratifying to me to enter upon the discharge of my official duties at a time when the United States are blessed with peace. It is a state most consistent with their prosperity and happiness. It will be my sincere desire to preserve it, so far as depends on the executive, on just principles, with all nations—claiming nothing unreasonable of any, and rendering to each what is due.”

3. In June, about three months after the president’s inauguration, he started upon a tour through the states, connected with the interests of the nation. Congress had committed to his supervision the fortification of a number of

places on the sea coast, and inland frontiers, and other duties relative to the navy, and for the faithful discharge of which, he deemed it necessary to obtain a knowledge of a number of places which could not be had without personal observation. He travelled east, as far as Portland, and then changed his direction westward, to Plattsburgh, New-York. He returned to the capital on the 17th of September. In almost every place through which he passed, he was met by processions, formed to welcome the chief magistrate of the nation to the attention and hospitality of the people, and his presence was every where hailed with evident demonstrations of enthusiastic joy.

4. In 1818 Illinois became an independent state, and was admitted into the union. This state derives its name from the principal river which runs through it. It was formerly a part of Indiana. The constitution which was adopted at its organization wisely prohibits the future introduction of slaves into the state. A successful war was carried on against the Seminole Indians this year by General Jackson, under the United States government. These Indians had committed various hostilities against the frontier inhabitants of the United States, near their country, under very aggravating circumstances. General Jackson, having called to his aid a thousand volunteers from West Tennessee, whom he had before led to victory, at New-Orleans and some other places, marched against the Seminoles, and, after various encounters,

reduced them to subjection, and brought them to terms of peace.

5. In February, 1819, a treaty was concluded by J. Q. Adams, on the part of the United States, with Louis de Onis, on the part of the Spanish government, by which East and West Florida, with all their adjacent islands, were ceded to the United States. During the same year the Arkansas Territory was erected into a separate government, by an act of congress; and Alabama, also, was admitted into the union as a sovereign and independent state. The next year the district of Maine was separated from Massachusetts, and formed into a distinct state, and admitted into the union. Missouri became a state, and was admitted in 1821, which makes the present number of the United States twenty-four in all.

6. Mr. Monroe was again elected to the office of chief magistrate of the nation, and he took the customary oath March 4th, 1821. Mr. Tompkins was re-elected vice president. In his inaugural address the president remarked:—"Twenty-five years ago the river Mississippi was shut up, and our western brethren had no outlet for their commerce. What has been the progress since that time? The river has not only become the property of the United States, from its source to the ocean, with all its tributary streams, with the exception of a part of the Red River only, but Louisiana, with a fair and liberal boundary on the western side, and the Floridas on the eastern side, have been ceded to

us. The United States now enjoy the complete and uninterrupted sovereignty over the whole territory, from the St. Croix to the Sabine."

7. In the spring of this year congress established a territorial government for the Floridas, and appointed General Jackson governor. In 1822 a society was organized in Massachusetts for the suppression of the slave trade. Two years before this, a law was enacted by congress for the suppression of this horrid traffic. But then, the penalty affixed to the transgression of this law, probably, more than any thing else, defeats the object for which it was passed. It ordains that, if any citizen of the United States shall, on a foreign shore, seize any negro or mulatto, not held to service in any of the territories or states of the union, with the intent to make him a slave, or shall decoy or forcibly bring or receive him on board with such intent, he shall be adjudged a *pirate*, and on conviction shall suffer *death*.

8. Were the penalty less severe, no doubt but information would be given of many instances where this law has been transgressed; as it is easy to perceive the reluctance which all persons must feel against commencing a voluntary process against a fellow citizen which would cause him to be *hung* as a *pirate*. But after all, there is something in relation to congress and the slave trade upon which no friend to the general government, nor any person possessed of the common sympathies of humanity, can reflect without pain. By the laws, the special laws of congress,

the slave trade is tolerated in the District of Columbia, and over which this body has entire control. There, within that district, are large prisons for the confinement of slaves by hundreds and thousands, and in which fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters are every day *bought* and *sold*! From this very district the slave trade is carried on by sea and by land, to many of the southern parts as regularly as any other trade whatever. And in this traffic members of congress themselves are sometimes engaged.— And yet, according to the laws of this vast republic, to buy a negro in Africa, and bring him to this country for the purpose of enslaving him, is *PIRACY and DEATH*!

9. In the summer of 1824 General La Fayette, having been invited to visit the United States by congress, arrived in New-York.— His services in the revolutionary war were remembered by a grateful people, and as he travelled through the country, his presence was hailed with the highest sensations of gratitude and joy.

The second session of the eighteenth congress convened in December of this year. The president in his speech represented the nation as being in a state of increasing prosperity, and our relation with foreign powers as of a friendly character. “Our revenue,” he said, “under the mild system of impost and tounage, continues to be adequate to all the purposes of government. Our agriculture, commerce, manufactures, and navigation flourish.”

10. Mr. Monroe's term of office was now drawing to a close, and the time arrived for another election of the chief magistrate for the nation. The electors having failed to make a choice according to the constitution, this duty fell on the house of representatives. Accordingly this body on the 9th of February, 1825, made choice of John Q. Adams, for the above-named office. John C. Calhoun had been previously chosen vice president by the electors appointed for this purpose. Mr. Adams was inducted into office with the usual ceremonies March 4, 1825. In his speech, he described the source from which public officers derive their power, and the principles by which it should be used.

11. "The will of the people," said he, "is the source, and the happiness of the people the end of all legitimate government upon earth. The best security for the beneficence, and the best guarantee against the abuse of power, consist in the freedom, the purity, and the frequency of popular elections. The general government of the union, and the separate government of these states, are all sovereignties of limited powers; fellow servants of the same masters, uncontrolled within their respective spheres, uncontrollable by encroachments upon each other.—The firmest security in peace is the preparation during peace of the defences of war."

12. The administration of Mr. Adams was exceedingly unpopular, and during the time of his remaining in office, the country was very

much torn and distracted with political dissensions, into the particulars of which, however, it is not necessary for us to enter here.

On the 4th of July, 1826, occurred the fiftieth anniversary of American independence. Great pains were taken throughout the country to render this day an occasion of special interest and unusual rejoicings, and before it closed, an event occurred which rendered it memorable indeed. This was the death of two of the ex-presidents of the United States, JEFFERSON and ADAMS. They were among the signers of that noted paper which just fifty years before gave a political existence to this great nation, and exalted a few feeble colonies to a dignified station among the governments of the earth. A half a century these venerable patriots were permitted to live in the enjoyment of the blessings which they, with others, procured at the expense of so much toil and labour, and then, on that glorious day, without any violence, they were suffered to sleep in death, "being old and full of days."

13. With this year we take our leave of the history of the United States. In contemplating the scenes and events recorded in the foregoing pages, how many interesting reflections crowd upon the mind. We commenced at a time when man had just begun to rise above the shackles of religious and political superstition, and we have seen them, guided by the lights of science and virtue, from small causes and beginnings, accomplishing events the most astonishing of any recorded in the annals of the world.

14. It cannot be too distinctly impressed upon the minds of the youth especially, that if this nation is distinguished above others for the civil and religious blessings which it enjoys, it is *religion* and *education* which have combined to make it so. It therefore becomes the duty of all to multiply and spread, as far as they are able, the means of diffusing the lights of science and religion. Upon every citizen, upon every father, mother, and child, most solemn and fearful responsibilities are imposed by the privileges and mercies we enjoy. To neglect these responsibilities, is to sin against God, and expose ourselves and our country to his dreadful displeasure. To fulfil them should constitute our highest pleasure. Let us sacredly regard the holy Sabbath, banish profaneness and immorality, and not render ourselves unworthy of the trust committed to our charge ;—if we are faithful the world is free !

QUESTIONS.

DEDICATION.

For whose particular benefit was this history written?

Can you think of any thing in relation to this country, as to its government or any thing else, in which it differs materially from other countries?

What should you not forget?

What is a truth of equal importance?

Do you desire to be good?

Wherein do those who are good differ from others who are not good?

Do you desire to do good?

What has our Creator done for us that we may secure both our own good and the good of others?

For what do these means qualify you?

What is a peculiar misfortune in relation to any one?

Why is it so?

Are you willing to grow up in ignorance?

What should we do that we may not grow up in ignorance?

May your teachers and parents hope this of you?

What should young people do that they may qualify themselves to be useful members of society?

What painful truth may we be constrained to say, if we neglect the means of instruction while we are young?

As this book has been written expressly for you, are you not, therefore, under greater obligations to read and study it?

Will you promise me now that you will strive to do this?

Will you give your heart to God and pray for his blessing in all your studies?

INTRODUCTION.

1. What is history ?
What does it set before the reader's mind ?
With what does it present us which is worthy of our imitation ?
Against what does it warn us ?
 2. What other things may be traced on the page of the faithful historian ?
What may we learn from it ?
 3. What do the people of these United States enjoy ?
What inference may we draw from this ?
Why should we acquaint ourselves with the means that have made this nation what it is ?
-

CHAPTER I.

What is the subject of this chapter ?

1. What circumstance led to the discovery of America ?
When were these attempts made ?
Was the continent of America ever known to any of the ancients before this time ?
What had the Portuguese attempted before this ?
Were they successful ?
2. What circumstances led Christopher Columbus to seek a passage to the East Indies by sailing west ?
3. Where was Columbus born ?
Of what nation was he ?
What difficulties did he meet with in commencing his first voyage ?
4. Who granted him the help which he sought ?
From what place did he sail ?
When did he set sail on his first voyage of discovery ?
With how many vessels ?
What were their names ?
With how many men did he sail ?
5. How soon after did he stop at the Canary Islands ?
Where do these islands lie ?
By what event were the mariners soon after alarmed ?

- What did Columbus do on that occasion ?
 How were the crews affected soon after this ?
 What did some of them propose to do ?
 How were they pacified ?
6. When was land first discovered by Columbus ?
 How were the crews affected by this discovery ?
 When did they land ?
 How were the natives affected by what they saw ?
7. Who stepped first upon the shore ?
 How did they testify the joy which they felt on landing ?
 How did Columbus take possession of the place where he landed ?
 By what name did he call it ?
 What did the natives call it ?
8. Whence did Columbus proceed after this ?
 What discovery did he make October 27th ?
 When did he discover Hayti ?
 What did he call this place ?
 What misfortune befell him there ?
 How were the natives affected with this calamity ?
 What did they do ?
9. When did Columbus set sail on his return to Spain ?
 What do you observe worthy of notice in the conduct of Columbus and his crew when they were overtaken by a severe storm ?
 To what expedient did Columbus resort to prevent the loss of his discoveries ?
10. When did he arrive at Palos ?
 How was he received by his king and queen ?
 To what important event did the fame of this voyage lead ?
 By whom was the continent of America discovered ?
 Of what nation were they ?
 For what purpose was the voyage undertaken which resulted in this discovery ?
 From whom did Cabot, the elder, receive a commission for this voyage ?
 When did they discover Newfoundland ?
 When did they first discover St. Johns ?
 From what circumstance did they give it this name ?

What course did they take after this?

Upon what circumstance did the government of England claim the eastern portion of North America?

11. What effect did the news of the above voyage have in Europe?

Who next undertook a voyage to the new world?

Who accompanied Ojeda in his voyage?

What circumstance led to the calling this continent by the name of *America*?

12. When was the first attempt made to settle a colony within the present bounds of the United States?

What gave rise to this first attempt?

By whom was it planned?

Where did they land?

Was the effort successful?

13. Can you mention some of the circumstances of the ships sent to America by Sir W. Raleigh?

What led Queen Elizabeth to call the section which they visited *Virginia*?

14. By what new route did Gosnold sail for America in 1602?

What discoveries did he make?

CHAPTER II.

1. When was the first permanent settlement effected within the limits of the United States?

How was this effected?

Where did this company finally land?

What did they call the river on which they landed?

What did they call the place where they commenced a settlement?

2. What have you to observe concerning the government of this colony?

3. With what calamities were they very soon afflicted?

4. What have you to remark concerning an adventure of Captain Smith?

What was reprehensible in his conduct?

To what danger did this expose him?

5. What death was he doomed to suffer ?
What circumstance saved his life ?
6. Is it known that the savages of this country were unkind to strangers without a previous provocation ?
What was their disposition toward such as approached them as friends ?
How did they receive Captain Newport and his company ?
7. What have you to observe concerning an attempt to settle a colony near the Kennebec River in 1607 ?
8. What measures were taken for increasing the Virginia colony in 1609 ?
What plan was laid for the destruction of this colony about this time ?
What prevented its execution ?
What induced the natives to form this plan ?
What have you to observe concerning the conduct of Pocahontas on that occasion ?
What calamities afflicted the Virginia colony in 1606 ?
9. What method did Captain Argal make use of to bring Powhatan, the Indian king, to terms of peace ?
Did he succeed in this ?
How was peace finally brought about ?
What have you to observe concerning Pocahontas after this ?
10. By whom was Albany first settled ?
When was its settlement commenced ?
When did they commence the settlement of New-York ?
What was the place previously called ?
How came a certain section of this country to be called New-England ?
11. What do you observe worthy of notice here ?
What event occurred about this time which ought never to be forgotten ?
What does a certain author say concerning this event ?

- Would you be willing to be bought and sold as a slave?
- Can it be right, then, in the sight of God, for any human being to be so bought and sold?
- Ought we not to pity and pray for those of our fellow beings who are held in slavery?
- And should we not also pity and pray for those who hold them in this state?

CHAPTER III.

1. In what does it seem that every American will feel a peculiar interest?
 Why so?
 What do we find in this chapter?
2. When was the first permanent settlement formed in New-England?
 By what sect was this settlement formed?
 What have you to remark concerning this sect?
3. What did the company do which is worthy of notice, after they arrived, and before any went on shore?
 When did they all land?
 By what name did they call the place where they landed?
 With what distressing calamity were they afflicted soon after they arrived?
4. What was done in Virginia about this time for the cause of education?
 What was done for the support of the Gospel?
5. What calamity befell the Virginia colony in the spring of 1622?
 What gave rise to this massacre?
 What fact is acknowledged by all who have attentively studied the history of this country?
 What were some of the particulars of the above-named calamity?
6. What circumstances led to the appointment of a day of public fasting and prayer in the Plymouth colony?

What led to the appointment of a day of thanksgiving?

What settlements were commenced about this time?

7. When was the first settlement commenced by the Massachusetts colony?

Where was this commenced?

What place was settled the next year?

When was the settlement of New-Hampshire begun?

8. What other settlements were commenced in 1630?

What do you observe concerning the sufferings of the people in New-England during the winter of this year?

9. What laws were passed about this time in the Massachusetts colony respecting tobacco?

Does it not appear to you as a very pernicious and filthy habit for one to use this noxious weed in any way?

How may we account for these and some other laws passed by the colonists about this time?

10. How and where was the first settlement effected in Connecticut?

By whom and under what circumstances was the colony of Rhode-Island settled?

CHAPTER IV.

1. For what is the year 1637 remarkable in the history of the colonies in North America?

Can you detail the circumstances under which this war was commenced?

2. What hostilities were committed by the Pequods in the spring of this year?

What measures did the colonists adopt for their defence?

Can you mention the particulars of Captain Mason's expedition?

3. What were the particulars of another victory gained over the Indians by Captain Stoughton?

4. What colony was settled in the spring of 1638?

What college was commenced this year?

When was the province of Maryland first settled?

When was the commonwealth of Connecticut formed?

How was the province of Maine formed?

5. What have you to remark concerning New-England about this time?

6. When was a confederacy formed between the New-England colonies?

What circumstances led to this measure?

What have you to observe concerning this confederacy?

7. For what is the year 1644 memorable?

What is stated in the preamble to this law?

What order was passed by the general court of Massachusetts in 1645, relating to the case of a slave?

8. When were the preparations for the New-Haven college commenced?

What is worthy of remark?

What measures were taken against the Quakers by the Massachusetts colony in 1656?

What reasons may be assigned for these severities?

9. When was the Connecticut colony constituted a body politic?

When was this done for Rhode-Island?

What provision was made in Virginia about this time to promote the cause of education?

What is stated in the preamble to the act passed for the erection of a college in that colony?

What have you to observe concerning an act of parliament which took effect about this time?

10. What do you remark concerning the settlement of Carolina?

11. What remarkable event occurred in January, 1663, in the northern parts of America?

Can you describe some of the particulars concerning it?

CHAPTER V.

1. What made it an object of desire with King Charles II. to dispossess the Dutch of New-York?

- How did he accomplish this desire ?
 On what conditions did the governor surrender ?
 What had the place been called before this ?
2. From what circumstance was a certain section called New-Jersey ?
 What change took place in Delaware about this time ?
 When did the Connecticut and New-Haven colonies become united ?
 When did New-York become an incorporated city ?
 What remarkable law was passed in Rhode-Island about this time ?
3. When did the Dutch retake New-York ?
 When was it restored again to the English ?
 When was the first Dutch settlement commenced within the limits of Carolina ?
4. What have you observed as you have advanced thus far in this history ?
 In what did the prosperity of the colonies appear ?
 What effect did all this produce upon the possessions and feelings of the natives ?
5. What determination was fixed on by the Indians ?
 By what name was this war known ?
 Why was it so called ?
 By what circumstances was it begun ?
 How many warriors was King Philip able at this time to bring against the whites ?
 When and under what circumstances were the first hostilities commenced ?
6. What were the next events which occurred ?
7. What do you observe concerning the situation of the people at that time ?
8. What occurred during this summer ?
 Can you give the particulars of the melancholy fate which befell Captain Lothrop and his men ?
9. Where was a decisive battle fought December 19, 1675 ?
 What were the particulars of it ?
10. How many Indians were slain in the above fight ?
 How many taken prisoners ?
 What was the general result of this battle ?

What circumstance finally put an end to the contest ?
How many of the inhabitants of New-England were slain during this war ?
How much property was destroyed by the Indians ?

CHAPTER VI.

1. In what new troubles did the New-England colonies find themselves involved about this time ?
2. How were these acts considered by the colonies ?
Why were they considered so ?
How was the discontent of the people in Virginia manifested ?
Who took the lead in this rebellion ?
What means did he take to effect his purposes ?
3. What happened to Jamestown in this contest ?
What befell Bacon soon after ?
What means were taken by the colonists for the purpose of conciliating the favour of parliament ?
Did these means succeed ?
4. When was New-Hampshire formed into a distinct colony ?
What city was founded during the same year ?
When was Pennsylvania founded ?
By whom was it founded ?
From what circumstance does it take its name ?
When was the plan laid for the city of Philadelphia ?
5. What was done in Massachusetts in 1682 for the adjustment of the difficulties with the king ?
Who descended the Mississippi River this year ?
What did he do ?
What calamity befell the Massachusetts colony in 1684 ?
What did the other colonies fear ?
What did they do to prevent this ?
6. What rendered the prospect of the New-England colonies so dark and gloomy ?
What was the consequence of similar proceedings against the other colonies as those which had deprived Massachusetts of her charter ?

What noted character arrived in Boston in 1686 ?

What was the object of his coming ?

What measures did he take in relation to the affairs of the colony ?

7. How did he attempt to deprive the people of Connecticut of their liberties ?

How was he prevented from taking away their charter ?

What did this man do the next year in Massachusetts ?

Could he have been a good man when he acted thus ?

What other measures increased the sufferings of the people ?

Who may we believe interposed for their deliverance ?

CHAPTER VII.

1. What do you observe concerning the facts which are narrated in the foregoing pages ?

What inferences may we draw from this consideration ?

2. Over how long a period does the previous history extend ?

What was the state of this continent at the commencement of this period ?

How did it appear when contrasted with the above state at the end of two hundred years after this ?

3. What was the number of the natives at this time ?
What have you to remark concerning their tribes, chiefs, and councils ?

For what are the western Indians remarkable even to this day ?

4. What have you to say of the persons of the natives of this country ?

Of their clothing ?

Of their habitations ?

5. What may be said concerning their skill in the arts and sciences ?

Of their food ?

Of the manner in which they spent their time ?

6. What may be said of their peculiar characteristics, views, feelings, &c ?

Can you mention some instances to prove this ?

How was the death of King Philip viewed at the time it happened ?

What effect has time produced on those feelings and views ?

What other reflections does the contemplation of King Philip's character suggest ?

7. What reflections are suggested in contemplating the fate which has attended the aborigines of this continent ?

8. To what number had the colonists increased at the end of two hundred years from their first settlement in this country ?

What do you observe concerning the peculiar traits of character in the first settlers of this country ?

What blessings do we now enjoy as the fruit of their labours ?

CHAPTER VIII.

1. What important event took place in Boston in the spring of 1689 ?

What led to this measure ?

2. What was now done by some of the colonies ?

What turn did things take in New-York ?

3. What singular delusion broke out in Massachusetts in the year 1692 ?

What is admitted by all sincere believers in the Bible ?

Is there any evidence to prove that the views of many people at that time who believed in witchcraft were correct ?

4. How did this delusion originate ?

By what means was it spread abroad ?

What lamentable consequences followed ?

5. By what simple process were many who believed

in this delusion brought to their senses in relation to this subject?

What changes soon after took place?

What is recorded of one of the Churches which had been afflicted with this delusion?

Is it at all likely that any one would be affected with a delusion in which he really did not believe?

6. What circumstance involved France and England in war about this time?

What are the particulars of an expedition fitted out soon after by the governor of Canada against New-York?

7. What of the expedition of the French against Salmon Falls?

What measures were soon after adopted by the colonies for their defence?

What expedition was fitted out by Massachusetts?

8. By what name was this war known?

How long was it continued?

Describe some of the barbarities committed during this war.

9. What act was passed in 1694 by the Massachusetts legislature, worthy of notice?

When was Yale College founded?

What reasons were assigned for establishing this college?

10. What remarks are made here which are worthy of being remembered?

Who have been the guardians of education?

What will a minister of the Gospel do who has the advantages of education himself?

11. To what means is it possible Massachusetts owes her exemption from the evils of the slavery system?

CHAPTER IX.

1. What circumstances again involved the American colonies in war soon after 1702?

2. Describe the assault which the Indians made on Deerfield in February, 1704.
3. Describe the fate which befell Mr. Williams and his family.
4. By whom was Carolina invaded in 1706 ?
Describe the expedition fitted out against Port Royal.
5. Describe the expedition which was fitted out against this place in 1710.
6. How long did this war continue ?
What important event occurred soon after in Carolina ?
7. What consequences followed ?
By what means were these calamities averted ?
8. What circumstances led to the division of Carolina ?
By what names are the two parts into which Carolina was divided now called ?
9. What do you observe concerning the eastern Indians about this time ?
10. When was the settlement of Georgia begun ?
What particulars in the early management of this colony are worthy of notice ?
What have you to observe concerning the visit of the Rev. Messrs. John and Charles Wesley to this colony ?
11. What colonies made up the number of what afterward became the thirteen United States ?
12. Describe the expedition of General Oglethorp against St. Augustine in the war of England against Spain.
13. How did this expedition eventuate ?
Describe the expedition of the Spanish against Georgia in 1742.
14. What stratagem was contrived by Oglethorp, and how did it succeed.
Can any expedient justify one's telling a lie ?
15. What is the next important event in this history ?
When was it declared ?
What have you to observe concerning the town of Louisbourg ?

Describe the expedition which was now fitted out against it.

16. What advantages were derived from its capture ?
How did the loss of this place affect the French ?
Describe the attempt which they made soon after upon New-England.
17. When was this war concluded ?
How long a period of time is embraced in the events narrated in this chapter ?
What will suggest the allowance it is proper to make for the evils in which the colonies were so much involved during this time ?

CHAPTER X.

1. What circumstances led to a declaration of war again between England and France ?
2. What is painful in tracing the history of any country ?
What may be useful to us ?
How so ?
3. What measures were taken in the colonies for carrying on this war ?
4. In what attempt were the French successful while the English were hesitating what to do ?
Describe the expedition of Colonel Armstrong against the Indians on the Ohio River.
5. How was Fort William Henry captured ?
With what disgraceful event was it followed ?
6. What rendered the prospects of the colonies discouraging in 1758 ?
What circumstances soon after effected a change in their prospects ?
What measures were adopted for their defence ?
7. To what places were expeditions now proposed ?
Describe the one against Louisbourg.
8. Describe that against Ticonderoga.
9. Describe the attempt made against Fort Frontenac.
10. What are the particulars of that against Fort Du Quesne ?

What was this place afterward called ?

11. What important event took place about this time ?
In what were the colonies successful in 1758 ?

CHAPTER XI.

1. With what year do the events described in this chapter commence ?

What plans had been laid for the conquest of Canada ?

2. Who commanded the army in North America this year ?

What measures did he now take against the French ?

3. How did the expedition succeed against Niagara ?

4. What daring enterprize was undertaken about this time by General Wolfe ?

Can you describe the situation of Quebec and the reasons which rendered it almost impregnable ?

5. How did General Wolfe succeed in his attempts to reduce this place ?

6. Can you give the prominent features of the battle in which General Wolfe was killed ?

7. What were the results of this battle ?

8. Describe the effort which the French made in the spring of 1760 to regain Quebec.

9. What important project was next planned and executed against the French by General Amherst ?

10. What events occurred about this time in Virginia ?

What happened in relation to the French armament fitted out this year for the aid of Canada ?

11. How long was this war continued ?

What have you to observe with regard to the loss of property and lives which it occasioned ?

What feelings did its termination produce among the people ?

How were these feelings testified ?

12. What soon after occurred to interrupt this tide of general joy ?

Describe some of the savage hostilities, and how they were terminated.

CHAPTER XII.

1. Over what scenes have we passed in the preceding chapters ?
 Why was the thought of these scenes tolerable when compared with others with which they were followed ?
 What feelings were indulged by the colonies up to this period toward the mother country ?
 What remark was made by Dr. Franklin to this effect ?
2. Who was Pownall ?
 What is the substance of his testimony on this point ?
3. How must the people have been affected at thoughts of a separation from the mother country ?
 What intention of England became known here soon after the peace with France ?
 What important question was discussed and decided in the British parliament ?
 What oppressive act was passed in this parliament soon after ?
4. How were these colonies affected by these measures ?
 Why were these measures on the part of Great Britain cruel and unjust ?
 Detail some of the means made use of by the people to express their disapprobation of these measures.
5. How was the British parliament affected with the petitions and remonstrances of the colonies against these measures ?
 What act was passed in 1765, by parliament ?
6. What is the substance of the concluding remarks of Colonel Barre, which were made against the passage of this act ?
7. What did he wish the British parliament particularly to remember ?
8. What means were adopted by some of the colonies to oppose this act, and prevent it from being carried into effect ?

Who distinguished himself in opposing the above act in the general assembly of Virginia?

9. What general measure was now adopted by the colonies?
10. What did this congress do?
11. What measures were taken by the populace to exhibit their indignation against these acts of parliament?
12. How were the people affected when the day arrived for the *stamp act* to take effect?
13. What kind of associations were formed about this time among the people?

How did the measures adopted by these associations operate on the commercial interests of many in England?

14. When was the stamp act repealed?
- What other offensive act was previously passed?
15. Do you remember any thing concerning a good man who took a deep interest in behalf of the colonies about this time?

What was his name?

What is the substance of some remarks which he made in the British parliament in their defence?

16. How did one reply to these remarks?
17. What is the substance of Mr. Pitt's reply?
18. How were the joy and gratitude of the colonies manifested when this act was repealed?

CHAPTER XIII.

1. What other oppressive acts were passed by the British parliament in 1767?
2. How did the passage of these acts affect the colonies?

What did they do about them?

3. How were their petitions and memorials treated by the British government?

What means were now adopted by the king to prevent resistance to these offensive laws in Boston?

4. What is sufficiently evident?

How does this appear ?

5. What serious affair took place in Boston in March 1770 ?

What were the circumstances which led to this catastrophe ?

How were the people affected by it ?

How were the feelings of the people manifested ?

6. What did the lieutenant governor do ?

State what followed in the town of Boston.

7. How far were the offensive acts of parliament repealed about this time ?

What reasons were assigned for this *partial* repeal ?

8. What event occurred in Rhode Island in the summer of 1772 ?

9. What measure was adopted generally throughout the colonies, in the fall of this year, which resulted in good to the colonies ?

10. What plan was now fixed on by the British government to test the laws of taxation ?

11. What followed the passage of this act ?

What expedient was fixed on in each of the places to which the tea was to be sent, to prevent the duty from being paid on it ?

How did this plan succeed ?

12. How did the good people in Boston dispose of the tea which was sent to them ?

13. What colony was thought to be the most guilty by parliament in resisting her measures ?

What means were adopted to punish that colony ?

14. What effect did these measures of parliament have upon the colonies ?

Give the substance of a resolution adopted by the town of Boston in relation to them.

How was the conduct of the people in Boston viewed in the other colonies ?

15. How was the day observed when the Boston port act was to go into effect ?

What did the ministers of the Gospel do on that trying occasion ?

What effect did their pious labours have upon the people of these times ?

CHAPTER XIV.

1. What general plan of operation was proposed by the Massachusetts legislature in June, 1774?
2. When did the deputies meet?
Where?
How was that meeting organized?
What was set forth in their bill of rights?
What is the sense of the resolutions which they passed?
3. Upon what farther measures did they agree?
What effect did these measures have upon the people in the colonies?
Give the substance of what Lord Chatham said concerning the papers sent to parliament from America.
4. What did General Gage do to prepare for the crisis which he saw approaching?
What effect did his movements have on the people in the vicinity where these things were done?
5. What are the particulars of the meeting of the Massachusetts assembly which convened in Concord in the fall of this year?
6. What important step was taken by this assembly at its next meeting in November?
What measures were in operation at the south during this while?
7. What did Mr. Pitt do in 1775?
What was done at the same time by parliament?
8. What important resolution was passed by the Massachusetts congress in February of this year?
9. What purpose was now formed by General Gage?
What measures did he take for the accomplishment of this purpose?
Describe the events which followed at Lexington.
10. What course did the British toops take after this affair?
Describe what took place between them and the American militia.
How many men were lost on both sides in this encounter?

11. What was done soon after to set the above affair in its true light ?
What determination was expressed to the king ?
12. What means were now adopted by the Americans for self defence ?
What project was formed and executed ?
13. What did the Americans now apprehend from some movements of General Gage ?
What precautions did they take ?
When was the redoubt thrown up on Breed's Hill ?
How many men were in this place when the enemy commenced their attack ?
14. How many of the British were marched against it ?
Give me the chief particulars of this noted battle.
15. What measures were taken by the British officers to rally their men the second time ?
How did they succeed in the second assault ?
What was the loss sustained by the enemy in this engagement ?
What was the loss of the Americans ?
What are the names of some of the American officers who were killed in that battle ?
16. What farther measures were adopted by the continental congress which was in session about this time ?
How many colonies were represented in this congress ?
Whom did this congress choose to be commander-in-chief over the American forces ?
What declaration was made and published from this congress ?
17. Give the substance of one paragraph from this declaration.
18. Give me the substance of the paragraph here quoted.
19. What reasons are assigned here for their confidence in their cause ?
20. What are the concluding sentiments expressed in this declaration ?
21. What other resolution was passed by this body which deserves notice ?

How does it appear that the members of that congress were men who feared God?

What did they say at the close of the declaration mentioned before?

22. What have you to observe concerning the movements of General Washington soon after this congress gave him the command of the American army?

CHAPTER XV.

1. What expedition was fitted out in the latter part of 1775?

How was it conducted?

How did it succeed?

2. What measures were taken to reduce Quebec?

What were some of the hardships endured by the company of Colonel Arnold?

3. How did Montgomery succeed in the attempt to reduce Quebec?

What important events occurred about this time in Virginia?

4. What did the governor next do?

When did the British government cease in these colonies?

What was done this year by the continental congress?

5. What plan was now fixed on by General Washington?

What was the object in this enterprise?

6. How were the British affected with what they saw the Americans had done?

What did they now resolve to do?

When did they leave Boston, and how many were there of them?

What did Washington do upon this event?

7. Describe the attempt made on the fort upon Sullivan's Island by the enemy, and how it succeeded.

8. How did the Americans distinguish themselves in that engagement?

What are the particulars of Sergeant Gasper's heroism?

9. For what purpose did the Americans first take up arms against the British?

What were their professions at that time?

What served to work a change in the minds of the people?

10. What other circumstances gave the Americans a good idea of a republican form of government, and inspired them with a desire for independence?

What important event followed in the continental congress on the 8th of June, 1776?

What was said by Mr. Lee in support of his resolution?

11. What took place on the 11th of June in this congress?

What memorable event took place on the 4th of July?

12. Give the substance of some things which are set forth in this able paper.

Do you really believe that ALL MEN are created FREE and EQUAL?

Can any one who sincerely believes that God has created *all men free and equal*, and that he has endowed them with the *unalienable right of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness*, consistently hold property in man, or continue to hold a human being as a slave?

13. What are some of the particulars farther set forth in this declaration?

14. How was this event received throughout the colonies?

What are some of the reflections which are naturally suggested by this event?

15. What may be observed of the government which this event served to establish?

What peculiar duties do the blessings which we enjoy impose upon us?

CHAPTER XVI.

1. What object now attracted the attention of General Washington?
How large was the American army now in the vicinity of New-York?
2. What movements were made by the enemy about this time?
3. Describe the battle which was fought on the 27th of August, and tell me how it terminated.
4. Give some account of the conference which was held, soon after the above battle, between Lord Howe and a committee from congress.
5. What are some of the particulars of a battle which was fought in the following September?
6. What prevented Washington from engaging the enemy in a general battle on the 28th of October?
7. What are the particulars of the attack which was made on Fort Washington, November 16th?
What course did Washington take after he left Newark?
8. What were some of the circumstances under which this retreat was conducted?
9. What heightened the general distress of the army?
How did Washington's conduct influence his army?
What bold enterprise was executed on the 25th December by Washington and his army?
With what success did he meet on the first of January, 1777?
10. What important resolution was passed by congress at the close of 1776?
11. What advice did this venerable body give to the army and people of the United States?
12. What were the particular features of the articles of confederation adopted this year by congress?

CHAPTER XVII.

1. What other measures were adopted by congress for the defence of the colonies?

2. What was the state of the American army at this time ?

What were some of the sufferings which they endured ?

3. Describe some of the sufferings of the American prisoners of war.
4. Describe some of the movements of the two armies in the spring of 1777.
5. What are the particulars of the battle which was fought on the 11th of September ?
6. What foreign officers fought for the Americans in this battle ?
7. What events had transpired before this in the north ?
8. What plan was formed in England ?

What was its object ?

What measures were taken for its execution ?

What event soon followed these measures ?

9. What course did Burgoyne next take ?
10. What battle was fought on the 16th of August of this year, near Bennington, Vermont ?
- How was it brought about, and what was its result ?
11. What effect did this victory produce on the minds of the Americans ?

What are the particulars of the next battle which was fought ?

12. Another engagement soon followed, how did this terminate ?
13. What was the situation of Burgoyne's army at this time ?
14. What important event took place on October 17th, 1777 ?

How did it affect the friends of America ?

15. Describe the battle fought at Germantown.
16. What events followed soon after ?
17. Describe some of the calamities which General Washington's army suffered in their winter quarters this year.

Do we realize how dearly the liberties were purchased which we now enjoy ?

18. What pious resolutions were passed by congress this year ?

CHAPTER XVIII.

1. What influence did the events of 1777 have upon the minds of many in Europe?
How were some of the British parliament affected?
2. What means were now adopted by the British ministry to conciliate the colonies?
What wicked attempt was made on a Mr. Reed?
What did he say to them?
3. What did England do on learning that France had united with the United States?
Describe the battle which was fought at Monmouth.
What loss was sustained on each side?
4. What operations were carried on in Rhode Island in July of the year 1778?
5. What course was taken by the French commander?
6. What induced General Sullivan to raise the siege of Rhode Island?
What led him to retreat from the island?
7. Describe the attempt which was now made to reduce Georgia.
8. Describe some of the barbarities committed by the British upon the American people this year.
Who were the tories?
Did they assist in committing these barbarities?
9. Describe the attack which was made on Wyoming.
Where were similar atrocities committed?
Describe the massacre of Colonel Baylor's regiment.
10. What are the particulars of the expedition which the enemy conducted against Savannah in November of this year?
11. What extraordinary project was planned and executed during the above siege?
12. How were the prisoners secured?
13. What expedition was fixed on by the British in 1779?
How was it executed?
14. What depredations were committed by Governor Tyron on the people of Connecticut?
15. Detail a few particulars.

16. How and by whom was the fortress at Stony Point reduced ?
17. Give some of the particulars.
18. What expedition was ordered in August of this year ?
How did it succeed ?
19. What naval engagement was fought in September on the coast of Scotland ?
20. What are some of the particulars of this battle ?
21. What was the situation of the American army during the winter of this year ?

CHAPTER XIX.

1. What expedition was undertaken at the close of 1779 ?
2. Who commanded the American forces at the south at this time ?
What request did the people of Charleston make of him ?
How was the siege commenced and carried on ?
3. How did this siege terminate ?
4. What measures were taken by the enemy after the capture of Charleston ?
How were Colonel Buford and his men cut off ?
5. What effect did these cruelties have upon many people ?
Who superseded General Lincoln at the south ?
What did General Gates now do ?
6. What was the result of the battle fought at Camden, August 16th ?
7. What have you to observe concerning some attacks made upon General Sumpter ?
8. Describe the attempt which the British made upon New Jersey, in June of this year.
9. What was the state of Washington's army during the winter of 1780 ?
10. By what general means was the nation afflicted ?
How was this calamity borne by some ?

11. How did Benedict Arnold attempt to clear himself from debts which he had extravagantly contracted?

For what crime was he tried and condemned by a court martial?

12. How did his condemnation affect him?

What means did he fix upon for the purpose of obtaining revenge?

For what purpose was Major Andre sent up the North River, near to the place where Arnold was?

13. What circumstances led to Andre's arrest by the American soldiers?

14. What did he do when he was arrested?

What did the soldiers do who took him?

What became of Arnold in the meantime?

15. What was finally done with Andre?

16. Give the circumstances of the mutiny which broke out in the American army in January, 1781.

17. Did this affair happen from any want of affection for their country in the Americans?

How does this appear?

What effect did these things have upon congress?

Was it for the want of a disposition on the part of congress, or the want of the means, that the necessities of the army were not better supplied?

18. What important measures were adopted by the government of Massachusetts this year?

What is set forth in the bill of rights?

What act was passed by the general assembly of Pennsylvania about the same time?

CHAPTER XX.

1. Who commanded the American army in the south in 1781?

By what general movements was this army distinguished this year?

2. What plan was fixed on by General Morgan by which to defeat the enemy?

How did he succeed?

3. What were the results of this battle, and what rendered the victory so conspicuous?
4. How did this victory affect Cornwallis?
What did he resolve to do?
What did General Greene do?
Describe some of the hardships endured by the Americans in their retreat from the pursuit of the enemy.
5. Where did General Greene engage the British on the 8th of March, 1781?
What was the result of this battle?
Where did General Greene next engage the enemy?
What caused him to fail of a complete victory this time?
6. By what event was the above defeat soon after counterbalanced?
7. Describe the next battle, which was fought at the Eutaw Springs.
8. To what place had Cornwallis retired?
9. How large a force was now ready to attack Cornwallis?
How and when was the battle begun at Yorktown?
When did Cornwallis surrender?
How large was his army then?
10. What effect did this victory have upon the war?
What did Washington order to be done to promote the general joy occasioned by this victory?
How did he direct that suitable acknowledgments should be made to the Lord for this victory?
11. What was done by Sir H. Clinton during the above time?
Describe some of the atrocities committed by the *traitor*, Arnold, in this expedition.
12. How was the British ministry affected with the capture of a second entire army in America?
What important resolution was passed in the house of commons, on the 12th of March, 1782?
13. What measures were soon after adopted by both nations?
What important event took place at Paris on November 30th, 1782?

When was the definite treaty of peace signed between the United States and Great Britain?

14. What remarkable coincidence took place on April 19th, 1783?
15. Can you repeat some of the advice which General Washington addressed to the governors of the states when he retired from the army?
16. What pious desires were expressed by him for the good of the citizens and the nation at large?
17. When was the American army disbanded?

How did Washington express his affection for his companions in arms?

18. How did Washington take his leave of his officers?

19. When did Washington resign his commission to congress?

What did he say on that occasion?

What is the substance of the reply made by congress to what Washington said?

CHAPTER XXI.

1. What reflections are naturally suggested by the events which we have gone over in the preceding pages?

2. What evils pressed upon the people after the return of peace?

To what amount was the nation in debt at the close of the war?

3. What means were proposed for the liquidation of this debt?

4. What prevented congress from the adoption of these means?

What evils followed?

5. By whom was the insurrection headed in Massachusetts?

What are some of the particulars of that affair?

Was there any other difficulty of this kind?

6. Describe the convention which was held at Annapolis in September, 1786.

To what other measures did this convention lead?

7. What was done by the convention which was held in Philadelphia in May, 1787 ?

When did the states accept of the constitution proposed by this convention ?

8. Of what has this constitution stood for a number of years an imperishable monument ?

In what does it vest the legislative power of the United States ?

How is this congress constituted ?

9. What has congress the power to do ?

10. What are some of the things which congress may not do ?

11. Where is the executive power of the United States vested ?

How is the president elected ?

What are some of his powers and duties ?

12. Where is the judicial power of the United States vested ?

To what cases does the judicial power of these courts extend ?

13. What are some other distinguishing features of the constitution of the United States ?

14. Who was chosen the first president of the United States under the new confederation ?

Who was elected the first vice president ?

When was the president inducted into office ?

Where was this done ?

15. What can you tell of the speech which Washington delivered on that occasion ?

16. In what did Washington believe the foundations of our national policy were laid ?

17. In what appropriate duties did the president and congress next engage ?

What should we never forget ?

18. To what was the attention of congress directed immediately after the organization of the general government ?

What measures were adopted for this purpose ?

19. How did congress again show their regard for the government of God, and how did they acknowledge their dependence upon him ?

20. Describe the tour which the president made after the adjournment of congress.
-

CHAPTER XXII.

1. When did congress commence its next session ?
Describe the secretary's report which was made at this session ?
2. How was this report disposed of ?
What measures were taken for carrying it into effect ?
What was the effect of these measures upon the state of the nation ?
3. What state was admitted into the union during this session of congress ?
When was Kentucky admitted ?
What expedition was planned about this time ?
4. How did this expedition succeed ?
How were the savages finally brought to terms of peace ?
5. When was Washington inducted into the office of the presidency the second time ?
What was the state of things about this time in France ?
How did this state of things affect this country ?
6. On what serious question did Washington now consult his cabinet ?
What did he afterward do ?
How was this measure viewed by some ?
7. What acts were passed by congress in March, 1794 ?
What rendered it necessary to pass these acts ?
8. What did congress do at this session in relation to the slave trade ?
By whom were the first slaves introduced into this country ?
By what means was this disgraceful traffic encouraged in the colonies ?
Mention some of the means which were early taken by the colonies to oppose it.

When was the first effort made in Virginia to oppose it?

9. Relate the circumstance which took place in Providence at the commencement of the revolutionary war.

From what facts does it appear that the United States were before Great Britain in their efforts to abolish slavery?

And how does it appear that Great Britain is now before us in this good work?

10. What circumstances occurred which seemed likely to involve the United States in difficulty about this time?

11. What measures were taken on these apprehensions?

What finally terminated them?

12. What led to an insurrection in Pennsylvania in the summer of 1794?

How was it suppressed?

13. What were some of the reasons which induced Washington to decline standing for an election the third time to the office of president of the United States?

What state was admitted into the union in 1796?

14. How did Washington signify his design to retire from public life?

What may be said of this address?

15. Give the substance of the paragraph quoted here?

16. What is the substance of this quotation?

17. What is exhibited in the language of this address?

What reflections does it suggest concerning the man who uttered it?

When did Washington die?

Where did this event take place?

How did it affect the nation?

What means were adopted to express the high sense which was every where entertained of his worth?

CHAPTER XXIII.

1. Who was the next president of the United states ?
What do you observe concerning his first speech ?
2. What interested the attention of congress soon after
Mr. Adams came into office ?
For what purpose had Mr. Pinkney been appointed
minister to the court of France ?
3. What reception did he meet with there ?
4. What did congress next do ?
5. What kind of a reception did the next ministers
meet with ?
6. How did a knowledge of this affect the people
throughout the United States ?
When was this difficulty finally settled ?
What engagement was fought just before this ?
7. Describe the District of Columbia.
When was the seat of government removed to
Washington ?
8. Who was the next president ?
Who was elected vice president ?
What have you to remark concerning the adminis-
tration of Mr. Adams ?
What concerning Mr. Jefferson's speech ?
9. What are the sentiments here quoted from it ?
10. What are those quoted here ?
11. What does he farther say ?
12. What led to the war with the Algerines ?
What was done to chasten them for their insolence ?
13. Describe the enterprise which was undertaken by
Captain Eaton.
How did he succeed ?
14. What particulars are here detailed concerning
him ?
15. When was Ohio admitted into the union ?
What ordinance was previously passed by congress
concerning this state ?
When was Mr. Jefferson inducted into office the
second time ?
Who was chosen vice president for this term ?

16. What noted event occurred in the summer of 1807?
 17. What measures were soon after taken to redress this wrong?
 18. What induced congress to lay an embargo upon all vessels within its jurisdiction about this time?
What warlike preparations were adopted about this time?
 19. Who was tried on a charge of treason against the United States, in 1807?
What led to suspicion against him?
 20. What is said here concerning the embargo law?
-

CHAPTER XXIV.

1. Who succeeded Mr. Jefferson in the presidency?
When was Mr. Madison inducted into office?
What rendered the situation of the United States particularly gloomy and critical at this time?
2. To what subjects did the president call the attention of congress in June, 1812?
3. What important question did he submit to their consideration?
What bill was passed by the house of representatives, June 4th?
When did it pass the senate?
When was war declared by the president of the United States against Great Britain?
4. What were the views taken of this measure by the committee on foreign relations?
5. What were the views of the minority in the house of representatives concerning this step?
6. What measures were next adopted for carrying on this war?
What were the views and feelings of many in the nation at this time?
7. What difficulties lay in the way of our success in this war?
8. Who was appointed commander-in-chief?

What important event occurred in the fall of 1812?

9. What served to lessen the grief occasioned by this event?

Mention some of them.

10. What other naval battles were fought soon after?

What were the results of some of them?

11. Describe the battle fought by Commodore Decatur soon after the above-mentioned battles.

What class of men have long been proverbial for their generosity?

Give an instance which occurred after the above battle.

12. Give the particulars of a battle fought on the 29th of December between the Constitution and Java.

How was the American army divided and stationed at this time?

13. What extra measures were taken in the fall of 1812 for carrying on the war?

For what purpose did the president call upon the several governors of the states?

How was this call obeyed?

14. What important event took place on March 4th, 1813?

Mention some of the military operations of this year.

15. When and how was Fort George taken?

What took place soon after?

16. By what means was the United States frigate Chesapeake captured?

How was this event viewed by the British?

17. Describe some of the naval engagements which followed the above in August and September.

18. What took place at Cranby Island?

19. Give an account of the battle on Lake Erie.

20. What farther account can you give of it?

21. What enterprise was soon after undertaken by General Harrison?

22. How did he succeed?

23. What put a conclusion to the Indian war in the west?

CHAPTER XXV.

1. What led to the appointment of commissioners on the part of the United States to meet at St. Petersburg?
2. What was done on the second Thursday in September, 1813?
What have you to observe concerning the movements of the Indians at the south?
3. How were they brought to terms of peace?
4. What measures were adopted for the farther prosecution of the war in December, 1813?
5. What intelligence was communicated to congress at this session?
What did congress do upon this?
6. Give some account of the naval engagements which were fought in the beginning of the year 1814.
7. When and where was the first regular pitched battle fought during this war?
Give an account of it.
8. Give me some account of the battle which was fought near the Niagara Falls, July 25.
What served to render the scene of this battle most solemn and awful?
9. What loss was sustained by both sides in the above battle?
What ineffectual attempt was made soon after by the enemy?
How did this attempt terminate?
10. Why did the movements of the British navy now particularly attract the attention of the American nation?
What events occurred in August, 1814?
11. Give an account of the capture of the United States capital.
Give an account of the attack on the city of Baltimore.
12. What were the warlike movements in the town of Plattsburg about this time?
13. Give me an account of the different naval forces on Lake Champlain.

14. When and how was this battle commenced?

How did it terminate on the lake?

15. How did the battle terminate upon the land?

16. What measure was proposed by the Massachusetts legislature with the view of relieving the nation from existing troubles?

17. Where and when did this convention meet?

Give me some account of its doings?

18. When was the battle of New-Orleans fought?

How was this battle brought about?

19. Give an account of this battle.

20. What officers of the enemy were killed?

How many were lost by each party?

21. What events followed soon after the above battle?

22. What important event occurred in June of this year?

What led to the war with Algiers?

What important stipulation was made in the treaty of peace with England?

In what language was it expressed?

When was Indiana admitted into the union?

CHAPTER XXVI.

1. Who was the next president of the United States after Mr. Madison?

When did Mr. Monroe take the oath of office?

Of what did he take an enlightened view in his speech?

Give the sense of the first quotation from it.

2. What is the substance of the second quotation?

3. Give me some account of the president's tour?

4. When was the state of Illinois admitted into the union?

What do you observe with regard to its constitution?

Give me some account of the Seminole war?

5. What important treaty was concluded in February, 1819?

What territory was erected into a separate government by an act of congress this year?

What other states were admitted into the union ?

How many states were there in the union up to this date, 1821 ?

Can you repeat all their names ?

6. When was Mr. Monroe inducted into office the second time, as president of the United States ?

Who was elected vice president for the term commencing at this time ?

What remarks were made by the president in his inaugural address ?

7. What territorial government was established by congress in the spring of this year ?

Who was appointed governor ?

What society was formed in Massachusetts in 1822 ?

What law was enacted by congress two years before this ?

What may we suppose defeats the object of this law ?
How so ?

8. What is it reasonable to suppose would be the consequence had the penalty of this law been less severe ?

Why so ?

What painful inconsistency may be observed in the doings of congress in relation to slavery ?

What kind of prisons are found in the District of Columbia ?

What kind of traffic is carried on there ?

How can it be any more of a sin to enslave men on the coast of Africa, than it is in Washington or any other part of the United States ?

9. What distinguished person arrived in this country in the summer of 1824 ?

How was he received here ?

What was the view which the president gave of the country at the second session of the eighteenth congress ?

10. Who was the next president of the United States after Mr. Monroe ?

How was he elected ?

Why was he chosen in this way ?

When did Mr. Adams enter upon his term of office ?

What did he do in his first speech before congress after his election ?

11. Relate the substance of this extract from it.

12. What remark have you to make concerning Mr. J. Q. Adams's administration ?

For what was the 4th of July, 1826, remarkable ?

What singular coincidence occurred on this day ?

What reflections are suggested by this circumstance ?

13. What do you observe concerning the period at which this history commences ?

What have we seen in tracing the course of events since that time ?

14. What cannot be too distinctly impressed upon the mind ?

What becomes the duty of all the citizens of the United States from this fact ?

What do you remark concerning all fathers, mothers and children in these United States ?

What will be the consequence if we neglect these duties ?

What are some of these duties ?

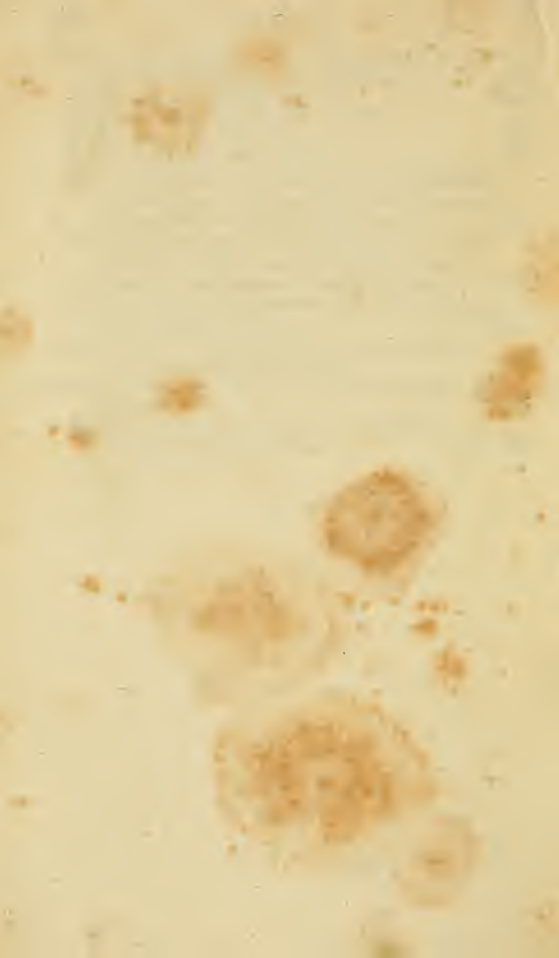
What blessings will follow if we faithfully perform them ?

CONTENTS.

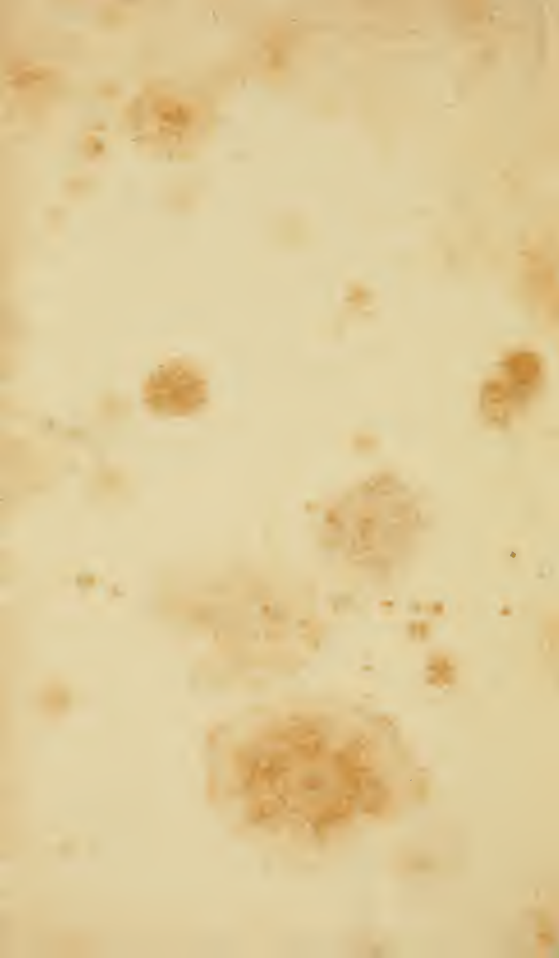
Dedication	Page 3
Preface	5
Introduction	7
CHAPTER I.—Discovery of America by Cabot and Columbus	9
II.—British colonies—the first permanent set- tlement in Virginia	15
III.—British colonies—settlement of New Eng- land	20
IV.—Settlements—Indian wars, &c	26
V.—Settlements—war with the Indians	35
VI.—Oppression of the colonies—Insurrection in Virginia	42
VII.—Reflections—state of this country when first discovered—character and habits of the natives—their decline and extinction— progress of civilization—character and manners of the colonists	48
VIII.—The charters restored, or renewed to the colonies—witchcraft—King William's war	53
IX.—War of the colonies with the Indians— Spaniards—and French	61
X.—War with France and the Indians	70
XI.—War with the French—conquest of Ca- nada	78
XII.—Acts passed by Great Britain to tax the colonies—measures taken by the colonies to oppose them	86
XIII.—Other acts passed to tax the colonies— the colonies refuse to submit to them	98
XIV.—First continental congress—open hosti- lities against the colonies—war with Eng- land	107
XV.—The British evacuate Boston—declaration of independence	121

CHAPTER XVI.—Battle on Long Island—White Plains—Trenton—and Princeton . . .	130
XVII.—Campaign of 1777	137
XVIII.—Campaign of 1778 and '79	147
XIX.—Campaign of 1780	158
XX.—Campaign of 1781—and close of the war	166
XXI.—Formation and adoption of the federal constitution—Inauguration of Washington as president of the United States . . .	177
XXII.—Washington's administration—War with the north-western Indians—Re-elec- tion of Washington to the presidency .	187
XXIII.—The administration of John Adams and Thomas Jefferson	197
XXIV.—The administration of James Madison, and war with Great Britain	206
XXV.—Progress of the war—Declaration of peace	218
XXVI.—James Monroe's administration—J. Q. Adams elected president	228











Neutralizing Agent: Magnesium Oxide
Treatment Date:

JAN

1998



PRESERVATION TECHNOLOGIES, L.P.
111 Thomson Park Drive
Cranberry Twp., PA 16066
(412) 779-2111



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 011 527 244 5

